

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LX.]

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BIRTHS.

On the 31st August, at No. 2, Hollywood Road, the wife of J. M. SETHNA of a Son.

On the 6th September, at the Government Civil Hospital, the wife of A. W. J. SIMMONS (P. W. D.), of a daughter.

DEATHS.

On the 24th August, at 36-4, Benecoolen Street, Singapore, PETER CONCEICAO, late foreman to the Blacksmith Department of Riley, Hargreaves & Co.

On the 2nd September, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, MARKUS LODEMAN LYNG HARTMANN, of the Imperial Maritime Customs, aged 24 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of the 10th August arrived, per the s.s. *Bengal*, on Friday, the 9th inst.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Viceroy of Szechuan has for some time been arguing the opening of Chengtu as a commercial port and the matter is still under consideration in Peking.

The tea shops in Peking all have notices posted up that the frequenters are to avoid the discussion of political questions, including the matter of coolies sent to South Africa.

The *Ji-ji* learns from Yinkow that the Japanese are turning over all the Customs receipts to the Chinese Government, but the Russians are seizing all the money at the likin stations up country.

The *Daily Mail* correspondent at St. Petersburg says that in a Russian village that he knows of they believe that we are at war because the Cossacks stole a child from the Emperor of Japan, and won't give it back.

Celonev Dov'or Misunitsky, lately in command of the Russian Legation Guard, a man of giant size, who was very popular in North China, was captured by the Japanese at Telihsze, and is now a prisoner in Japan.

A brief notice was recently discovered posted on the door of a Protestant native church in Taming-fu. It read: "Commencing with the 7th Moon, rise and kill the devils." Taming-fu is just within the Shantung border.

A Chinese was caught by the Japanese recently in the act of conveying \$40,000 to the Russians in Liaoyang, the money presumably being some left behind in the flight from Newchwang. Needless to say it has not reached its intended destination.

The example of those Kuala Lumpur Chinese who lately determined to sacrifice their queues, as one step towards reform in Chinese institutions, is affecting Borneo. The Beaufort Postal Clerk, it is said, contemplates cutting his queue off, which he admits to be a nuisance.

The military authorities of Seoul have decided to reduce the number of troops in Seoul to 3,000. These will then take the rank and duty of policemen with their present officers as sergeants of police. This will largely increase a useful department and abolish a number of useless so-called soldiers.

The clergyman's frock, as a cloak for misdeemeanors, has gone out of fashion in England since Thomas à Becket made his great but ineffectual stand. In China, however, it still has its value. A defendant escaped a whipping in the Mixed Court on the 1st instant, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, on the ground that he was "in holy orders."

The acting governor of Hu-nan has sent 20 intelligent civil and military officers and others to Japan to study modern police methods, at the expense of the Government. The cost, about £18,000, will be defrayed by the treasury of the province. The students left Changsha for Yokohama on the 16th ultimo. They will remain in Tokyo for two years.

Yu Tai, the Imperial Chinese Resident at Lhasa, telegraphed to the Peking Government that he had negotiated with the Mission satisfactorily and advised that, as the Dalai Lama had run away and his whereabouts had not been ascertained, the Dalai Lama should be dismissed from his position and an Imperial Decree to that effect should be issued.

M. Beau, the Governor-General of Indo-China, has signed an order interdicting the circulation in Indo-China of Japanese or Chinese pictures or plans relating to the Russo-Japanese war. The circulation of a Japanese journal which had commenced to extend in the Colony has also been interdicted. This information appears in *L'Indo-Chinois* under the heading "A Good Measure."

An interesting decision was given recently by the Paris Courts. A master tailor sent to his cutter at Nice orders to return to Paris at once, and enclosed a railway ticket. The man lost the ticket en route, and was summoned by the railway company. He proved, however, that he had it when he began the journey. The Court held that this sufficed, and non-suited the railway company.

Reuter's Agency understands that a scheme for the amalgamation of certain of the British possessions in West Africa, which has been under the consideration of the Government for some time, will partially be put into operation next month, when Southern Nigeria and Lagos will be placed under one Governor. This may be regarded as the first step towards the amalgamation of Lagos and Southern Nigeria as one Colony.

Referring to the rise in Honan of a new lot of "Boxers," this time called the "Orchardists" (Tsai Yuan), the Linchingchou correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* reports that all the missionaries have fled from the southernmost part of Chihli. He is not anti-missionary, so it is amusing to note that he describes the mission work thus: "... active for three years past in acquiring property and winning converts."

An interesting presentation will arise out of the twenty-five hours' sitting in July, the London correspondent of the *Sheffield Telegraph* states. The hero of that sitting was Mr. Spencer Charrington, the venerable Member for Mile-end, who stuck to the House until after the final division. His Unionist colleagues intend to present him with a piece of plate, with a suitable inscription. Mr. Charrington is eighty-six years of age.

A letter from the Siccawei Observatory of Commerce drew attention to the disastrous effects which have resulted elsewhere to delicate instruments from the proximity of a single trolley system of tramways, and urges that the community consider seriously whether they desire a system which will corrode their gas and water pipes, disturb their telephone lines, perhaps the time ball service, and render impossible a line of work which is recognised as having a considerable public interest.

A writer in the *Transvaal Advertiser* wants to know the intentions of the Government in respect to the Chinese immigration question; also, whether the statement made by Mr. Lyttelton in the House of Commons that the Transvaal would have to pay the cost of erecting receiving houses in various parts of China means that the people of this country will be taxed to facilitate the means whereby the mining companies are to extract the mineral wealth of the country and forward it to absent dividend receivers abroad. A satisfactory solution to some of these Celestial problems might, he thinks, tend to stimulate the market.

Viceroy Tsen Chun-hsuan is reported to have recently received a telegraphic advice from Laichowfu to the effect that on the 16th ult. the French authorities at Kwangchowang had written to the Prefect of Laichowfu that a French warship would proceed to Laichow for the purpose of surveying and making charts so as to facilitate navigation between Kwangchowang and Annam. On the 17th the warship arrived at Laichow and put the surveying pole on a height on Fengwangshan and asked for due protection. Viceroy Tsen wired at once to the Waiwupu in the matter and instructed the Taotai and Prefect as well as the Bureau of Foreign Affairs to prevent the French surveying party from carrying out the survey.

Dr. Park, the Health Officer of Penang, has presented a long and valuable report on the more effective control of Penang's food supply, the second part dealing chiefly with milk. Dr. Park advises that the hawking of milk should be stopped, and all milk should be sterilised. To carry out sterilisation would probably need an analyst capable of carrying out bacteriological investigations, and would cost about \$9,000. But it would enable the standardisation of milk to be carried out. Dr. Locke agreed as to the importance of looking after the food supply and the supreme necessity of a pure milk supply, but was not prepared to make so many restrictions on the trade. He was asked to supply a memorandum for the use of the Commissioners.

REGISTRATION OF SERVANTS.

(Daily Press, 5th September.)

The advantages derivable from the system of registration of servants as worked in Ceylon is tersely summarised by our Singapore contemporary. It would be curious to hear what the present Governor of the Spice Island, Sir HENRY BLAKE, has to say on the subject. Fortunately for the people of Ceylon—employers and employed—they had secured the system before His Excellency's arrival. Sir HENRY BLAKE knew something of the drawbacks and evils attending the present want of such a system in this Colony, and it is quite possible that, in spite of his tenderness for Chinese prejudices, he would have adopted the recommendations of the Commission appointed by him to consider the question of the regulation of chair and jinricksha coolies had not the petticoat influence at Government House been too potent. It is a comfort to think that in Ceylon, where the system is working so well, Lady BLAKE'S influence is not likely to bring about its reversal. The *Straits Times* says, and we make no apology for again reproducing its remarks:—"In Ceylon 'a person who needs a servant sends a note to the Registrar, who exhibits a list of 'vacancies at his office daily. All unemployed registered servants go there to 'examine this list, and dozens generally 'apply for the appointment within a very 'few hours. Applicants are trained servants who have a complete record of their 'service in their pocket registers, men 'whose name, description, nationality, &c., 'are recorded in the book for purposes of 'identification; whose whole career from date 'of registration is accounted for; whose 'recorded characters are genuine and not 'borrowed for the occasion; men who can 'not swear that their last salary was say 'Rs. 30 when it was only Rs. 15; in a word, 'men whose antecedents are carefully recorded for one's benefit.' Recorded, we should say, for the benefit of both master and servant, being a means of protection to the former from imposition, and a passport to good employment to the latter as well as a means of protection against pretenders.

What happens in Hongkong, where there is no registration, is as follows:—It is difficult to get efficient servants in any case, most of those offering being what are known as "larn pigeons," and the veriest duffers often at that. Either they have no written testimonials of any value or else they exhibit borrowed certificates the true ownership of which it is not easy to detect. Not infrequently bad characters obtain entry into respectable households by these means, and the first hint of the fact is given by the discovery of the sudden flitting of the newly-engaged GANYMEDE with the bulk of the moveable valuables. In other cases amusing revelations come to light. One lady engaged a staid and solemn-looking Chinaman as "boy" or butler, and after a long and sore exercise of patience with his apparently unaccountable blunders and clumsiness, accidentally discovered that the new domestic had been *faki* in a Chinese shop, and had only acted on one occasion as "substitute boy" for a friend. Another boy whose aspirations for pay mounted to a very high figure as compared with his youth and absence of reliable references, was found to possess absolutely no qualifications for the post beyond a slender stock of broken English and an unlimited "cheek," which on this occasion failed to carry him through. On another occasion a Police officer who had been called in to investigate a robbery from the house, recognised in the person of the head domestic an old offender. The wages

asked by servants in Hongkong are in inverse ratio to their capacity or experience. Every change is the signal for asking an advance on the wages enjoyed by the last incumbent of the post. Perhaps the height of impudence was reached the other day by some chair coolies, who, hearing a lady was likely soon to require such servants, applied for the job and calmly demanded fifteen dollars per month each as wages!

It is not wonderful, in such circumstances, that the domestic servants should have been degenerating ever since the voluntary system of registration was abandoned. The servants at that period were not all that could be wished, but they were infinitely superior to their successors in capacity, civility, and behaviour. They were as a rule drawn from a better class, they took some interest in their work, were more reliable, and certainly did not include gaoi birds in their ranks, nor is the supply of servants, even of this undesirable type, equal to the demand. The Servants' Guild sees to this. If a bad servant has at length exhausted the endurance of his mistress by insolence and laziness, and finds summary dismissal, he hies him to the Guild, and by misrepresentation of his grievance procures a boycott of his late employer. The latter is then compelled to do without assistance for some time or engage one of the wasters who is sure to apply and demand excessive wages for absolute incompetence. Registration would speedily bring about a cure for all these evils, and a realisation of the benefits sketched so clearly by our Singapore contemporary. The British and foreign community have been very long-suffering in this matter. They have urged the introduction of registration for years past, and all the arguments against it have been completely demolished. The only one having any force at all is that some of the servants would object to be photographed. Considering all the benefits which registration would confer on the servants in securing their record and facilitating good employment to good workers, while eliminating the dishonest and undeserving, it is hardly worth while to discuss this objection. Men of quite as good a class and earning better wages—viz., the engineers and sailors employed in steam-launches, &c.—make no objection to being photographed as a means of identification, and it is preposterous to imagine that domestic servants would prove less amenable to reason. Of course if the objection is to be raised for them they will be quick to endorse it, but if they realise that the Government mean to insist upon registration they will promptly give way. The ladies of the Colony recently addressed a memorial on this question to Mr. MAY, while acting as Administrator, and though he did not feel at liberty to so soon reverse the policy of Sir HENRY BLAKE, we trust that when Sir MATTHEW NATHAN has had time to grapple with this subject he will not hesitate to inaugurate the long-desired system. It would be unfair to expect His Excellency to act hastily or without due consideration, and it is perhaps rather early as yet to worry him with the question, but as it has incidentally cropped up we have ventured to invite his attention to the circumstances.

A member of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce wrote asking whether an exporting firm at Home, when quoting C.F.I. Shanghai, includes, according to general usage and British law, the risk of war, and further whether, in the event of the goods not being so covered by him, and being lost or delayed from causes arising out of the existence of a state of war, the exporter is responsible. The reply was that it was a question of law, rather than of usage, and could not be answered by the Chamber.

PORT ARTHUR.

(Daily Press, 6th September.)

The persistent holding out of General STOESEL at Port Arthur long after prudence and military honour would seem to have demanded surrender is one of those features of the present war which to the onlooker accustomed to the ordinary amenities of civilised war would seem to demand some explanation. It is of course the fact, Russia was at the beginning so intent on her game of bluff, and so confident that Japan, following the example of her European contemporaries, would never have the cool judgment to question the hand of her opponent, that, over sanguine as to the result, she temporarily lost control of her mental faculties, and concluded that Japan, like herself, was only indulging in a professional flutter which, after the example of the game so characteristically abandoned by England, would, in view of the high stakes on the table, refuse to call, and leave a walk over to the other. That Japan alone of all the Powers should have seen through the very antiquated game being played by Russia seemed to that over-confident Power so incomprehensible that for the time she fairly "went off her chump," yet 'tis consonant with human nature; but that this condition of obfuscation should continue till now, more than six months after Japan accepted the challenge, is hardly consistent with ordinary sagacity. That in St. Petersburg, where gush and spiritualism are momentarily in the ascendant, any folly, however criminal, should hold sway over the feeble conscience of the Tsar we may well imagine, but that the General in Command at Port Arthur, whose patronymic of STOESEL seems to point him out as a Courlander, or at least of Teutonic descent, should acquiesce in so seemingly criminal a suggestion, seems incompatible with our ordinary ideas of Teutonic caution. It is true that the Tsar himself telegraphed to General STOESEL that he would expect the garrison of Port Arthur to uphold the honour of Russian arms, but it is well to remember that the ROMANOFFS have ever proved but sorry lords, and have shown but little gratitude, especially when the recipient bears the dark stain of a Teutonic name. In this case it is well to recall a historic parallel. TODLEBEN, who so stoutly maintained in his heroic defence, of Sebastopol the "honour" of Russian arms, won little reward for his exertions; he, Russian though he was, had the similar misfortune to bear an unmistakable Teutonic appellation, and in consequence for the rest of his life, though his defence had won for him the admiration of the military world, was at home treated with studied neglect. Once, indeed, when the favoured at St. Petersburg had failed to make any impression on the Turkish lines of Plevna, he was recalled from obscurity to accomplish the task, but the work once accomplished the honours were distributed amongst others less worthy, and the great general left to sink into an unhonoured grave. So far the parallel is noteworthy; General STOESEL has perhaps failed in one of the great requirements of a Russian General: he has not been the facile inventor of lying dispatches turning disgraceful defeats into brilliant victories, nor has he been participator in any "simple demonstrations," but has had to yield step by step before an army better trained, and, we may add, fighting for a better and holier cause. It would be well for him ere it is too late to lay these things to heart.

Of course there is another view, and one that it is well that the Japanese generals entrusted with the conduct of the war should well ponder. It is no part of their scheme to cause unnecessary waste of human life, nor needlessly increase the sufferings incident to warfare. Such misdeeds may be consonant with Russian civilisation, or want of civilisation, for unfortunately their conduct of the war up to the present most nearly resembles that of a GENGHIZ KHAN, and casts a lurid light on the boasted culture of our modern Europe. Still, uncouth as are the ways of St. Petersburg, there may be some method in this seemingly useless waste of life at the doomed fortress. Autumn is now well on us, and in another three months field operations will become practically impossible. But winter, in the more southern regions of Liaotung impractical for warlike operations, is in northern Siberia a time adopted preferentially for travel. As long as active operations in the field are possible the number of troops possible to convey along the railway will at best do no more than supply vacancies due to the wear and tear of the war. In winter these conditions will be considerably altered. It is therefore quite within the range of possibilities that during the winter the balance of the troops in point of numbers may be considerably altered; and this, were it possible to stave off the surrender, might be considered to hold out a prospect of ultimate relief, and by engaging the Japanese troops elsewhere might eventually alter the result of the campaign. We do not, of course, wish to infer that such would be the consequence, but in warfare it is above all things essential to provide for every eventuality; and the continuance of the war over the winter, though probably not distasteful to Russia, who is above all fearful of being left to her own devices, would be in the last degree harmful, not only to Japan, but to all other Powers having relations with the Far East. Doubtless this would be bread and jam to Russia, but it is a condition which would not so favourably appeal to the other Powers—especially England and Japan.

CHINESE FARMERS' TROUBLES.

(Daily Press, 7th September.)

Farmers themselves, if their chronic grumbling be evidence, agree in accepting a similar view of tillage to that embodied in *Genesis*, and consider that the labour involved in extracting nourishment from the bosom of Mother Earth is more of a curse than a blessing. Certainly, there are signs of sincerity about their complainings, for although vast tracts await their attentions, these undeveloped spaces of Canada, Siberia, China, Australia—and elsewhere—are allowed to remain unproductive. In Great Britain, even, a land which our American friends are pleased to regard as overcrowded, and so small that the sightseer from the States is in danger of inadvertently stepping off into the sea on his walks abroad, the greater possibilities of agriculture must still be considered latent and unguessed. And this in spite of us, ink-smearing, ideal-cultivating folk, who are fond of preaching "the gospel of Soil-labour; that no man can win greater honour by his life-work than by labouring faithfully, wisely, undismayed among the good, sweet, reasonable earth. She (the soil) may seem to play with the patient farmer, may seem to thwart his efforts, destroy his work's fruition for very wantonness; but in the long run, a man earns the just price of his labour. The land will give him troubles, disappointments,

to try his mettle, and afterwards she will atone to him a hundred-fold if he go forward with the plough." Thus do we talk, and write, and wonder that there is no responsive rushing "back to the land." We are apt to rhapsodise, moreover, from the bone-coddling recesses of the padded chair, on the delights of the strenuous life, the physical pleasures of exertion, and the consequent joy in ease that is thereby earned. Well, the farmer, perhaps, knoweth his own bitterness. In China, for example, his "lot is not a happy one." He has truly, theoretical honour in the land. The Chinese, when defining academically the social status of their own people, esteem the tiller of the ground as only one degree lower than the scholar who is, *de facto et de jure*, of the first estate. Neither the merchant nor the artisan, successful or otherwise, enjoys the social prestige ("on paper, in books, documents, proclamations, precepts, and exhortations") of the Chinese agriculturist. Every year, we are told, at the spring equinox, farming for *T'ong yan* and *Han jin* is given its seal of Imperial, and therefore divine, approbation by the custom which compels the Emperor to plough in the Temple of Agriculture at Peking, and thus, metaphorically expressing it, to lay the foundation of the next harvest. In the provinces, a like duty is expected of, and performed by, the viceroys and governors. Yet in spite of these aristocratic typifications of the national importance of agriculture, there are enormous areas of good land left waste or fallow. This, also, in spite of that remarkable official generosity which has made a custom of allowing five untaxed harvests to the farmer who reclaims and puts into tilth any hitherto unyielding soil. In practice, the Chinese farmer does not receive the respect that legend and literature has proclaimed his due, probably because nothing fails like failure. By that, it must not be understood that the Chinese farmer fails to make his farm productive. How should he, when the soil is so rich, and lots still richer only want working, and when he is credited with an "unremitting toil" that fully exemplifies "the never-tiring industry" of his nationals? But alas! getting and keeping are two different matters. There are the robbers, licensed and unlicensed, to reckon with. The Peking people recognise that an agricultural community gives less trouble to its rulers than any other, but their efforts to encourage the growth of such peaceful populations have been nullified by their failure to exercise effective government over those subjects who neither toil nor spin, and no less so by their lack of supervision over a rapacious officialdom. Peking has, as the virile speech puts it, bitten off more of Asia than Peking can chew. Just now in the province of Kwangsi, the deplorable state of agriculture is particularly apparent. Hundreds of acres are laid waste again, and the patient toil of the farmer rendered of no account by the idle rebel. The Kwangsi governor has "memorialised" to the effect that the farmers are afraid to work, that nine out of every ten houses are empty, and that there should be a remission of taxes in consequence. It would appear from this and numerous other examples that the foreign politician's scrupulous regard for the "integrity of China" is on a par with the worship of a myth; and that it is our sad duty to follow BERSEY PRIG into scepticism, and to declare our belief that there "ain't no sich person." All the books and all the authorities go to show, as do these current events, that China has not that "local motion" which, according to BACON, "keepeth bodies integral."

MISSIONARIES AND POLITICS.

(Daily Press 8th September.)

We are wondering what our American guests are thinking of the extraordinary petition published in the *Journal* of the American Asiatic Association, with reference to the Consul-General for the United States at Shanghai, some comments on which we took from the *Kobe Chronicle* and published in our issue of yesterday. So far as our observation has gone, the Shanghai papers have observed a noticeable reticence with regard to the affair, and this absence of support or criticism may perhaps be indicative of the contempt in which the action of the signatories is held locally. Upon referring to the files, we find that the *North China Herald* deprecated the publication, and pointed out a misrepresentation made in respect of business firms supposed to have signed the petition to the President. There has been, however, no protest against the thing itself, nor any animadversion upon the form of it. Only the vigilant paper in Japan, apparently, noticed any injustice, and its comments we have already presented to our readers. Whatever mistake or misunderstanding there may be as to the business men at the back of this expression of dissatisfaction with the senior consul of the northern port, there is "no probable shadow of doubt, no possible doubt whatever," that this remarkable request to President ROOSEVELT was signed by a dozen or more missionaries. The serious portion of the representation reads:—"In a court of law we could not be permitted to testify to any particular act to show that the standing of a man was not good, but we would be asked if we knew his general reputation. Acknowledging the justice of this principle, we do not, therefore, propose to direct Your Excellency's attention to any one act, but we state that the official standing of the Consul-General is not good, and that his course here has not inspired the confidence of the substantial foreign residents of this port. We do not feel safe under his administration, and we deeply regret to write that we do not. We are loyal to our flag, and we beg that you will have it represented by a man who embodies in his official conduct its high mission."

No one can read that without seeing in it a serious reflection upon a public official with great responsibilities; and yet there is not in the whole of the complaint a single specific charge against the man to whose conduct and character it bears reference. To such vague charges, so serious in their general effect, as our *Kobe* contemporary has pointed out, there is no possible reply. We cannot help feeling considerable amazement that such a document did not promptly find its way into the waste paper receptacle of the U.S. Department of State. Mr. JOHN GOODNOW occupies, of course, a position of grave responsibility, and it were well that such an official should be, like the Imperial Roman lady, above suspicion. Who, however, may rise superior to all stigma, if he is to be exposed to such inconsequent aspersions as these made by the Shanghai missionaries? Mr. GOODNOW may have given numerous causes of complaint that we have no suspicion of: we do know that he has seemed to some Shanghai Americans a man after President ROOSEVELT's own heart, a strong man, of quick decision and prompt action, who has, in numerous instances, set the law of Shanghai above "yellow" patriotism, and given rulings calculated to preserve the higher prestige of his own community and the necessary amenities of an international settlement. It may smack too much of the

methods of the petitioners if we seek for probable motives; but we cannot combat a suspicion that there is justice in the saying that "United States Consuls in the Far East are at the mercy of American Mission Boards, who are powerful enough to have any Consul removed unless he takes steps on every occasion to show sympathy with their work." These missionary libellers have relied upon legal practice to justify their unique procedure: legal practice would excuse us if we were to suggest some like motive for this action of theirs. How any useful investigation could be made on the strength of such an empty indictment we are unable to understand; nor can we conceive that such a memorandum could ever be entertained for an instant by British authorities. It would seem that the emphasised loyalty of these gentlemen "to the flag" was as to quality somewhat strained; and that their loyalty to the principles outlined in the New Testament was at the time of writing more than shaky. "For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" PAUL to the CORINTHIANS is surely also PAUL to F. R. GRAVES, Missionary Bishop Protestant Episcopal Church, when he says: "If then ye have judgments of things pertaining to this life, set them to judge who are least esteemed in the church. I speak to your shame." Are the subsequent verses a dead letter in the Episcopalian body? "Now therefore there is utterly a fault among you, because ye go to law one with another. Why do ye not rather take wrong? Why do ye not rather suffer yourselves to be defrauded?" American politics, we have been told, are not always as clean as they might be. In meddling with politics (for this is probably a bit of political jobbery), the reverend memorialists have associated themselves and their calling—in a market manner—with very dirty politics indeed.

WEIHAIWEI.

(Daily Press, 9th September.)

Writing to the *Times* on July 13th, Sir FRANK SWETTENHAM, sometime Governor of Singapore, deprecates the spending of any money on Weihaiwei, which he compares very much to its disadvantage with Hongkong and Singapore. Sir FRANK is doubtless to be commended for his pious jealousy for the interests of the colony with which he was so long associated; even the prophet ELIJAH was commended for his jealous care for the charge committed to him, though in his case, as in Sir FRANK's, the jealousy proceeded from ignorance of the actual facts. Lately a certain section of the Home Government has been collecting a mass of information regarding Weihai from people who know nothing of it. It is not altogether easy to comprehend the distaste with which the place is regarded by these knight-errants of British policy, nor why they should entertain so very special an aversion to this particularly inoffensive little bit of territory, or why they should have become so rancorous in its condemnation. As a fact the possession of Weihai has during the few years of its occupation so materially affected the course of affairs in North China that it is not too much to say that, had it not been for the presence of our small garrison there, the whole of not only Manchuria, but of northern China as well, would by this time have been partitioned between Russia and Germany.

So much for the past. With regard to the future the advocates for withdrawal invariably shut their eyes to the very large proportion of the so-called Singapore and

Hongkong trade which really centres in the Gulf of Pechili. From geographical causes the external trade of China of necessity ranges itself into three zones, which again naturally concentrate about the mouths of the Canton River and the Yangtze, and the entrance of the Gulf of Pechili. From geographical causes likewise, there is at present no commanding port in the Gulf to act a similar part to Hongkong in the south and Shanghai in the centre. The trade of the two more southerly zones has already so far developed as to have assumed definite lines of flow. The trade of the northernmost is still wandering in an unsettled channel, and is practically in a still inchoate condition,—so much so that the vast inland trade of Manchuria and Mongolia has hardly yet been scratched, much less tapped. It is this fact that increases the present importance of the position politically and commercially. Germany and Russia, each in its particular way, have not been slow to recognise the fact; and hence both have made serious attempts to obtain a fixed *point d'appui* in this same Gulf of Pechili; and both have spent literally millions—tens of millions, indeed—to render their footing secure. Germany in her port of Kiaochow and her planned railways in Shantung, already open to the capital, Tsinan; and Russia in her twin ports of Port Arthur and Dalny. These are facts which even the depreciatory letter of Sir FRANK SWETTENHAM cannot explain away, and it is well that our Government, before listening to such foolish talk, should really ask itself why Germany and Russia should take such pains to acquire what it, with a careless indifference as to the future, would actually throw away with childish recklessness. There is a legend current on the other side of the Pacific that Washington, the fairest State of the American Union, was deliberately abandoned by the British Government of the day because the British Commissioner sent out to investigate reported the country as useless—"The salmon would not even rise to the fly." On similar childish grounds an equally sapient Government would willingly abandon a position which would give command of the trade of Manchuria, a trade, it may be noted, as yet merely in its infancy, but which with the introduction of settled government in a country not exceeded in fertility and resources by any on the face of the earth, must increase a hundred-fold.

But it is not with the immediate present so much as with the distant future that this Weihai question is concerned. Whatever be the result of the Japanese war, the position in the Liaotung Peninsula will never be the same as before. England and America will certainly insist on the trade of Manchuria being thrown open. If Japan be successful this is quite consonant with her commercial policy. Many complain that an Englishman cannot now make a livelihood in Japan. Perhaps this may be the case, but the strange fact remains that British trade increases by leaps and bounds:—the Japanese Government is sufficiently enlightened to leave the trade unfettered, and the result is doubtless economy. Is England to object to a system which results so advantageously for British trade, even if it render individual profits less? Such we may add is the invariable result of healthily growing commerce. Russia and Germany, each according to her own peculiar lights, have been seeking to capture this promising trade of the Gulf of Pechili. Russia would hug it to her bosom till she had crushed out its very life blood. Germany, by careful propping and gentle guid-

ance, would train it to centre in Tsingtao. She has already spent her money on a railway, open as far as Tsinan; she is at the moment playing a little obstructive game at Chefoo aimed at British interests. Is there any possible doubt as to what she would do were an *insouciant* British Government to leave her an open door in Weihai? She has at least made no false pretences, so that even the poor pretext of Teutonic perfidy would not in this instance be available. Of Russian methods of trade surely our Government has had sufficient experience to comprehend that it merely means strangulation. Russia—or rather shall we say the Russian Government?—has no love for trade as such. Trade requires communication—and communication is what the conscience of the country most detests; and the destruction of which engages the primary instincts of Russian administration. Practically Russia has lost her key to the situation, and with an open Manchuria, and an increasing and industrious population, the future of Manchurian trade is not to be judged by its present condition, hampered and bound as it is on every side.

But there is another condition, which no statesman can afford to neglect, and which will of necessity be especially operative in North China. No country, not even excepting the States themselves, is so well situated to take advantage of the opening of the Panama Canal as England; and no countries in Asia will be more affected than Japan and North China. The direct trade between Great Britain and these countries, at least, must perforce assume the new channel. In this case even the most superficial onlooker must see the necessity of a distributing port for North China to answer the purpose that Hongkong has so efficiently filled for the south. It is singular that no British statesman, in office at least, has had the pre-vision to recognise this fact.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press, 5th September.)

The Coroner's Jury summoned to inquire "how and by what means" the death occurred of a Chinese woman whose body was found beneath the debris of a house which collapsed in Ming On Lane during the recent typhoon might upon the evidence have added to their verdict a rider drawing the attention of the Government to the alleged insecurity of life in Hongkong. The building inspector told the Court that there are numbers of houses whose walls show small cracks similar to those he had noticed in the house which collapsed, but he did not consider it his duty to warn the owners. "as small cracks do not necessarily render a house dangerous." Nevertheless this expert witness had no hesitation apparently in expressing the opinion that half the houses in Hongkong ought to be condemned. Coming as this opinion does from one of the building inspectors in the service of the Government, it ought to serve as a warning alike to the owners of such property and to the Government, who certainly incur a heavy responsibility in allowing house property which "ought to be condemned" to be inhabited to the danger of the lives of tenants. In the opinion of this witness all houses of more than ten years' standing in the Colony are suspect. If so, it is clearly the duty of the Public Works Department to have a thorough examination periodically made in every case.

The proposal of His Excellency the Governor to form a Volunteer Reserve Association is one which finds a responsive echo in the breasts of the majority of Britishers in the Colony, for here, above all places, such an Association ought to exist. Many ex-members of the Volunteer Corps will, I am sure, eagerly join the new Association. But why fix a maximum age limit? The grey-bearded old Boer on the veldt proved himself as efficient a rifleman as his son

and grandson, and it says a great deal for the comparative healthiness of Hongkong that there are many men in the Colony exceeding the age of two-score years and ten whose vision is as keen and who are as capable of handling a rifle as many a man on the sunny side of fifty. The chief obstacle to the success of the Association is what we are prone to regard in this enervating climate as the inaccessibility of the rifle ranges; but when this is seen to be the case His Excellency will doubtless find a satisfactory way out of the difficulty.

So far the supply of coolies from South China for the Transvaal has not been anything like as ample as was anticipated. And I suppose this explains to some extent the rumour that the Opium Farmer is to petition the Government for a considerable reduction in the large sum he is paying for his monopoly in the Colony. It has been said that the Farmer anticipated a large income from the demand likely to be created by the coolies assembling at Hongkong for embarkation, but if the Farmer's tender was based on any such anticipations they cannot be regarded as of a very intelligent order, for at the time the tender was accepted it was by no means certain that Chinese coolies would be admitted into South Africa. It would be interesting to know the real reason of the falling off in opium consumption alleged alike by the Opium Farmers in Penang and Singapore as well as Hongkong.

It may seem to be useless repetition to refer again to the beachcomber nuisance, but really this question is getting so serious that it cannot be too freely ventilated. During an early morning walk on Saturday I was approached by several of these characters seeking for money. In the evening I saw two of the same number at a street stand in Queen's Road swilling those nauseous drinks set out for the delectation of Chinese coolies. They are certainly at liberty to drink anything they like if they have the money, but I noticed that the spectacle afforded huge amusement to a crowd of street loafers who looked on. To let out those of them who are in the House of Detention on a pretence of looking for work each day is bad policy. They don't want it. They should be detained altogether or else deported whence they came.

BANYAN.

SUPREME COURT.

Saturday, 3rd September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

CONTRACTORS' DISPUTE.

The hearing was resumed of the adjourned action in which Chun Foo Chu, a contractor, sought to recover \$228.22 for work done and materials supplied (in connection with the turfing of ground at Mountain Lodge and Victoria Hospital) from Chun Yee Sen, another contractor. Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. R. Harding, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors, was for the defence. The question was one of quantities and of extra work done.

His Lordship gave judgment for \$29.60 with costs.

A LIBEL ACTION.

Judgment was given for the plaintiff for 10 cents (each party to pay own costs) in the case in which a rice merchant, Chan Lai Ng, sued a clansman, Chan Po Sun, for \$1,000 for an alleged libel contained in an advertisement in the *Canton Times* newspaper, defaming plaintiff's character. Mr. H. W. Looker, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, solicitors, was for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. Hastings, solicitor, for the defence.

Mr. C. B. Mowrawala has just beaten Mr. A. B. Arasia, the holder of the Half Mile Championship in connection with the Parsee Swimming Club. The Club Championship goes to the winner of the final on Saturday next, accompanied by a silver cup.

Monday, 5th September.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THEIR HONOURS SIR HENRY S.
BERKELEY (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND T.
SERCOMBE SMITH (PUISNE JUDGE).

APPEAL TO THE COUNCIL.

On Wednesday, 24th August, the Full Court dismissed an appeal in the case of Chan Ut Sui and Pun Kan Shan versus Chu Ping, surviving executor of Chu Chuen, deceased. The unsuccessful appellants came forward with a motion for leave to appeal to the Privy Council from the decision of the Full Court. They were represented by Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. H. J. Gedge, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, solicitors) and Messrs. E. H. Sharp, K.C., and H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Mr. J. Scott Harston, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors), were for the respondents. The action was in respect of the ownership of a Crown lease on the Praya.

Mr. Slade put in affidavits showing that the property was over £500 in value, namely, £9,120.

The Chief Justice—You are in occupation?

Mr. Slade—Yes; but nothing is being done with the land.

The Chief Justice (to Mr. Sharp)—Are you quite satisfied with that security, or do you want something higher?

Mr. Sharp—We are quite satisfied with the terms asked.

The Court allowed the appeal.

Mr. Slade—I would ask your Lordships that the costs of this application be made costs of the cause.

The Chief Justice—Yes.

The Court adjourned.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

CLAIM AGAINST A WAXWORKS OWNER.

Lin Woo, contractor, sued A. W. Symons, proprietor of the waxworks on the Praya opposite the Central Market, for \$110 for work done and materials supplied. Mr. D. V. Stearnson, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff.

His Lordship (to defendant)—Do you admit this claim?

Defendant—I admit \$10 of it.

Mr. Stearnson in opening the case said that defendant applied to plaintiff to put up a mat roof on his waxworks building. Plaintiff gave him a tender to do the work for \$110. Plaintiff's tender was accepted, but after the roof had been put up it had to be taken down again by order of the Public Works Department. A canvas roof was then put up, and defendant applied to the plaintiff to put up bamboos to keep the canvas in its place. The canvas was hired at a certain price. When the work had been completed defendant paid two instalments on account, but refused to pay the balance. His Lordship after hearing the evidence gave judgment for \$24 with costs.

Tuesday, 6th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

TIMBER MERCHANTS' CLAIM.

Tan Kan, trading as Lee Kee Tseung, timber merchants up the West River, sued the Chu Lee Loong timber shop, Mongkoktsui, for \$571.95, being balance due for timber sold and delivered, and costs. Mr. H. Hursthouse, of Messrs. Dennys and Bowley, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff.

Mr. Hursthouse stated that the action was undefended. Mr. d'Almada, the defendants' solicitor, had withdrawn from the case.

Tan Kin on being called deposed that he had from time to time sold timber to the defendant firm. At present there was a balance out, standing to the amount of the sum sued for, which balance he had been unable to recover.

His Lordship gave judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

Mr. Hursthouse said they had been informed that defendants very early that morning had commenced to remove their goods from the shop. Would his Lordship issue an order of execution? His Lordship granted the order.

Wednesday, 7th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

CLAIM FOR RENT.

Pun Fung Sang sued the Tsung Fung Wing for \$145, being money due for rent in lieu of notice in respect of No. 115, Jervois Street. Mr. F. C. Barlow, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro for the defendants.

Evidence showed that defendants took the house on a monthly tenancy and left without giving notice.

For the defendants two witnesses were called, who stated that the agreement about renting the house was for three months only, and the rent was paid for these three months.

A partner of the defendant firm deposed that the premises which they had previously occupied in Queen's Road Central were burned down. The landlord said the building would be rebuilt and again let to them in three months. However, they did not go back to their old premises as the landlord had raised the rent to a prohibitive amount.

His Lordship after hearing all the evidence gave judgment for defendants with costs.

A PROMISSORY NOTE.

There was down for hearing in the afternoon a case in which Wong Ngok Wan, 249, Queen's Road East, sued Chan Yuet Tsun, 2, Salt Fish Street, West Point, for \$282, being principal and interest due on a promissory note dated 11th January, 1901. Mr. Otto Kong Sing, solicitor, was to have appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. P. W. Goldring, solicitor, for the defendant.

This case was down for hearing at a quarter-past two.

The Court officials sat until 2.35 without any appearance being made on either side, and it was then found out that the case had been settled on the previous day, but that no notification of this had been made to the Court.

His Lordship scored the case off the list.

Thursday, 8th September.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR HENRY
S. BERKELEY (CHIEF JUSTICE).

DISPUTE ABOUT A LEASE.

Judgment was given in the case of Li Sheang, ex parte the debtor, as between Leung King Chuen and Luk Shan Ip and the trustee in bankruptcy of Li Sheang. Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister (instructed by Mr. H. K. Holmes, solicitor), appeared for Leung King Chuen and Luk Shan Ip; and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister (instructed by Mr. C. E. Beavis, solicitor, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist), for the trustee.

The questions to be decided were—(a), whether the document registered in the Land Office by Memorial No. 27,346 on 29th March, 1900, constituted a valid lease or agreement for a lease for 30 years to the Wing Fung Tai shop at \$72.50 a month, and (b), what is the interest of Leung King Chuen and Luk Shan Ip at the present time in the house 19, Jervois Street, on Marine Lot No. 6 A. These questions had been ordered to be tried by Sir William Goodman.

His Lordship said—I will deliver judgment on that issue which was argued before me at the last Bankruptcy Court. I have put my reasons in writing, not, however, that I had any difficulty after the very clear arguments addressed to me by the Bar. It seems to me that after these arguments there is only one conclusion that can properly be arrived at. In my opinion the question raised on this issue is *res judicata* as between the bankrupt debtor, Li Sheang, and the Wing Fung Tai, and is incapable of being reopened in any proceedings.

as between the trustee of the bankrupt estate and the Wing Fung Tai. The question admitted in issue A was fully gone into and fought out to the end in Suit No. 21 of 1900, in which the present bankrupt was then plaintiff and the Wing Fung Tai were then defendants, and was distinctly and finally determined by Chief Justice Carrington, as between those parties, in favour of the Wing Fung Tai, when it was decided that the lease was a valid and subsisting one for a term of thirty years from a day in October, 1895, therein called "lucky day." The effect of that decision is to estop the bankrupt Li Sheung, and the trustee of his estate, from impugning the accuracy thereof in any proceedings subsequent thereto. It was contended by Mr. Pollock that the determination of the question raised in this issue was not necessary to the judgment of Chief Justice Carrington in favour of the Wing Fung Tai in Suit No. 21 of 1900, and that in consequence the judgment in that case in favour of the Wing Fung Tai does not bind the then plaintiff or the trustee of his bankrupt estate in subsequent proceedings. I do not concur in that contention. I think it is clear from the pleadings and from the Chief Justice's notes that the question of the validity of a certain lease then set up by the then defendant as entitling him as against the then plaintiff to the possession of No. 19, Jervois Street, for a term of thirty years—which is the self-same question as in this issue "A"—was made and became and was considered by the parties and by the Court a necessary question to be determined in favour of the Wing Fung Tai before judgment in the then pending suit could be given in their favour as defendants. The judgment of Chief Justice Carrington in favour of the Wing Fung Tai in the Suit No. 21 of 1900 renders the question of the validity of the lease *res judicata* as between that firm and Li Sheung and the trustee of his bankrupt estate, because in that suit it was considered necessary to decide that question, and, to adopt the language of Mr. Best in his work on Evidence, 8th Ed. p. 542, it "was actually decided as a groundwork to the judgment itself." I think the Wing Fung Tai are entitled to costs.

Mr. Pollock referring to the question of costs argued that there were special circumstances in the case which justified the trustee in bringing this action before the Court for definite determination, and he should not therefore be held liable in costs.

His Lordship remarked that there was a general principle that costs followed the event. It did not follow that, because there were special circumstances, that was to prevent the costs going to the successful party.

Mr. Pollock asked his Lordship to make an order that the costs of all parties come out of the estate in priority to the second and third mortgages' charges.

Mr. Slade objected to this, saying such an order should not be made in the absence of the mortgages.

His Lordship said the order would be that the trustee pay the costs and indemnify himself out of the estate.

Mr. Pollock added that there was another issue—"What was the interest of Leung King Chuen and Luk Shan Ip at the present time in the house, No. 19, Jervois Street, Marine Lot 6A." Who were the Wing Fung Tai?

His Lordship said he had decided that the trustee had nothing to do with this lease, and there was no reason why the trustee should seek this information. In view of his decision it was quite unnecessary for him to try the second issue.

RECEIVING ORDER!

Chan Ching Po, alias Chan Tai, alias Chan Kwai, carrying on business under the style of the Hang Hing Tai, applied for a receiving order.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor, who appeared in support of the petition, said the assets amounted to \$3,100, the greater part of which was recoverable, and the liabilities to \$6,500.

His Lordship granted an order.

Capt. Parr, Acting Commissioner of Customs at Yatung, succeeds Mr. Brazier at Kowloon, and Mr. V. Henderson is appointed Acting Commissioner at Yatung.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce held on Tuesday, 16th August, 1904, at 3.45 p.m. Present:—Mr. E. A. Hewett (Chairman), Mr. D. R. Law (Vice-Chairman), Hon. W. J. Gresson, Messrs A. Haupt, N. A. Siebs, J. R. M. Smith, H. E. Tomkins, R. O. Wilcox, Hon. R. Shewan (ex officio), and A. R. Lowe (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the monthly meeting of the General Committee held on 12th July last were read and confirmed.

EMPIRE CABLES.

The following reply to the correspondence published in previous minutes was read:—

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.
Hongkong, 11th July, 1904.

SIR.—I have the honour to inform you that your letter of the 20th April last, and its enclosures on the subject of "Empire Cables," has received the attention of the Committee.

In reply I am directed to state that this Chamber has consistently sympathised with schemes having for their object greater facilities for telegraphic communication from this Colony with all parts of the world, and more particularly with a view to a reduction in cost of messages.

As you are doubtless aware, the trade of this Colony is of a cosmopolitan nature, and I am to state that the Committee are consequently not prepared to unduly favour "all British routes," but rather are inclined to encourage "Free trade in Cables" as recommended by the British Inter-Departmental Committee's Report on Cable Communications laid before the Houses of Parliament in May, 1902.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

(Sd.) A. R. LOWE.
Secretary.

Cecil Bethune Esq.,
Secretary, Board of Trade,
Ottawa, Ontario.

QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS AT SAIGON.
The following correspondence was read:—
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.
Hongkong, 4th June, 1904.

SIR.—I am directed to inquire from you relative to the Government notification here on the 7th inst. that 12 days quarantine had been imposed on arrivals from Hongkong, whether such regulation at Saigon applies to vessels of whatever nationality.

My Committee are anxious to be assured that similar treatment is accorded in the port of Saigon with regard to quarantine regulations as is accorded in this port to vessels, no matter to what nation they belong, which arrive from other ports declared here as infected with plague.

The favour of any relational information you may be disposed to communicate will be much appreciated by the Committee of this Chamber.—I have, etc.

(Sd.) A. R. LOWE.
Secretary.

J. L. O'Connell Esq., Vice-Consul for Great Britain, Saigon.

British Consulate,
Saigon, 9th July, 1904.

SIR.—In reply to your letter of the 14th ult. I have the honour to inform you that quarantine regulations imposed at this port are similar to all merchant vessels without any distinction of flag.

The imposition of 12 days upon arrivals from your port has been reduced to 48 hours' observation provided ships come with no cargo nor passengers, and it applies to arrivals from Hongkong, Canton, Amoy and Swatow.

As for vessels coming with cargo (with the exception of certain goods prohibited by Sanitary Rules), they undergo 12 days' quarantine, passage included. The entrance of Asiatic passengers is prohibited. Mail steamers enjoy certain privileges of course.

I presume what made you think that French merchant ships had a more liberal treatment than vessels of other nationality is the case of the French s.s. *L'huyes*, which happened on the 17th ultimo, and consisted of but 48 hours' observation when there had been no notice from

the local authorities as to any change in the quarantine restrictions. The same day I approached the local authorities, and was glad to hear that the said steamer merely inaugurated the series of steamers coming under the new clause of 48 hours' observation, which came into force from that date and was since notified.

Changes in the quarantine regulations have been wired by me to your Colonial Secretary as they came along.—I have, etc.

(Sd.) J. L. O'CONNELL.
Vice-Consul.

The Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

CLAYTON'S APPARATUS FOR DISINFECTING SHIPS.

The following reply to the Government inquiry submitted at the last meeting was read:—
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

15th August, 1904.

SIR.—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 6th ultimo relative to the question of the desirability of introducing Clayton's apparatus for disinfecting ships in this port.

It will be remembered that on 23rd January 1902, the Medical Officer of Health minute, at a meeting of the Sanitary Board that the "apparatus would be used on all steamers leaving this port when plague prevails here," and on all steamers arriving from plague-infected ports—only, however, with the "consent of the shipping agents." My predecessor's letter to you, dated 24th February, 1902, stated that the Committee of this Chamber did not see under the circumstances the apparatus could be usefully employed here, at least so far as ships were concerned, as in the first place the use of the apparatus would inevitably involve the detention of steamers, and consequent heavy expense; and in the second place it would be impracticable, because in most cases vessels calling here have large quantities of cargo on board for ports beyond this. There would be few ships on which it could be used without greatly interfering with trade and incurring great expense to the shipowner and possible serious loss to the owner of the goods on board.

On further consideration, and after allowing for the presumption mentioned in your letter under reply that other ports would be unlikely to insist on quarantine restrictions in cases where vessels had been fumigated by the Clayton process, the Committee feel compelled to adhere to their previous opinion.

I am to mention that the Port Health Officer of Singapore does not state under what conditions the apparatus is used nor the number of ships disinfected, and in view of the great variety of Chinese foodstuffs and general merchandise arriving on vessels calling here on the way to other ports, the shipping companies would be very chary of risking loss through damage to cargo by the S. O. 2 Gas, and further they would probably find that in cases where the ships are not empty when fumigated, dead rats under the cargo would cause much inconvenience before the vessels arrived at their destinations, as great difficulty will be experienced in getting the pipes right down underneath the cargo in a full ship in order to effect thorough fumigation and thereby compel the rats to come up on top of the cargo.

The committee, however, see no objection to the purchase of a machine provided its use is confined to extinguishing fires on board ships, for which it is eminently suitable, but they question whether such fires are frequent enough to justify the maintenance of the necessary barge and staff. In any case the Committee of this Chamber do not consider that the cost of the apparatus should be met by levying a fee on the vessels in which it is used, unless the desire to make use of it is entirely voluntary and not influenced by threat of quarantine restrictions.

It will be noticed that the Committee acknowledge the usefulness of the Clayton apparatus for fire extinguishing purposes, and are also inclined to view with favour its method of fumigation when applied to ships free of cargo. Probably the Government is already aware that one of the shipping firms already possess a fully equipped Clayton machine, and others are likely to follow suit should sufficient use be found for it in this port. It therefore appears desirable that, for the present, the matter had

rather be left to private enterprise, and to this course the Committee trust His Excellency the Governor will consent.—I have, etc.

A. R. LOWE.

Secretary.

Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

PAPERS LAID ON TABLE.

Report on a Journey in Mongolia by Mr. G. J. Kidston, Third Secretary of the British Legation, Peking.

Economical and Financial Japan for 1903.

CURRENCY QUESTION.

Correspondence with the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce relating to the joint memorial addressed to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps at Peking on the currency of China was submitted and passed.

ACCOUNTS OF THE CHAMBER.

The Secretary's statement of accounts for the half year ending 30th June last was submitted and passed as satisfactory.

REGISTRATION OF CHINESE PARTNERSHIPS.

The discussion on this subject was again adjourned until the September meeting.

QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS AT NEWCHWANG.

The following communications were read:—

Colonial Secretary's Office.

Hongkong, 25th July, 1904.

SIR.—I am directed to transmit for your information the enclosed copy of a letter from His Britannic Majesty's Consul at Newchwang, declaring Hongkong and other places to be infected ports.—I have, etc.

(Sd.) M. J. DRAYSON.

for Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

H. M. Consulate.

Newchwang, 13th July, 1904.

SIR.—I have the honour to inform you that the ports of Canton, Hongkong, Swatow, Amoy and Foochow have been declared infected, and that vessels arriving here from those ports after the 14th instant will be liable to quarantine for ten days counting from the date of departure, after which they will be admitted to pratique unless a suspicious case occurs on board.—I have, etc.

(Sd.) H. A. LITTLE.

Consul.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Hongkong.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Hongkong, 13th August, 1904.

SIR.—I have the honour to inform you that your letter of the 25th ultimo (No. 5950-04, C.S.O.) enclosing copy of notification from H.M. Consul for Newchwang declaring the ports of Canton, Hongkong, Swatow, Amoy and Foochow infected with plague, thereby subjecting vessels arriving at Newchwang from those ports to ten days quarantine counting from the day of the departure, has been considered by my Committee, who appreciate the courtesy of the Government in affording them this information.

In reply I am directed to ask you to be good enough to inform this Chamber under what authority Mr. Consul Little agreed to the issue of the notice in question, having regard to the fact that Newchwang is a Chinese Treaty Port.

The sweeping nature and heavy penalty imposed on arrivals as compared with those enforced at other ports north of Hongkong seems to my committee to call for vigorous protest from the Government in order that, if possible, less arduous restrictions may be substituted. In any case such a protest will perhaps lead to the authorities exercising more discrimination in dealing with a similar matter in the near future.

The Committee cannot but view with increasing uneasiness the attitude which the neighbouring Governments appear to be adopting towards Hongkong. The principle of "giving a dog a bad name" and then hanging him seems to have been universally accepted, and on the slightest pretext quarantine regulations are being enforced against Hongkong which, my Committee consider, are not in all cases justified. These, if allowed to continue without due protest, will in the end seriously affect the prosperity of the colony.

In making this request the Committee do not for one moment wish it to be understood that they desire to ignore existing conditions, but they cannot but fear that undue restrictions are at times enforced against Hongkong. In the interest of the Colony generally the Committee therefore feel they are justified in asking for

protest to be made on this occasion.—I have, etc.

(Sd.) A. R. LOWE.

Secretary.

Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary,

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Hongkong 16th August 1904.

SIR.—With reference to your letter of the 13th August in connection with the imposition of sanitary restrictions on this Colony by the Newchwang authorities, I am directed to inform you that I have addressed the Consul on the subject and pointed out the serious disadvantages which would accrue to the Colony by the unnecessary imposition of such restrictions.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant.

(Sd.) F. H. MAY.

Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

The Chairman said he hoped the Government's letter to H.M. Consul at Newchwang would have the effect desired by the Chamber.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 8th inst. in the Board Room. Dr. J. M. Atkinson presided, and there were also present Hon. P. N. Jones (Vice-President), Hon. A. W. Brewin, Registrar-General; Major Josling, R.A.M.C.; Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. A. Rumjahn; Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.; Dr. W. W. Pearse, Medical Officer of Health; Dr. H. A. Macfarlane, Assistant Medical Officer of Health; and Mr. T. A. Hanmer (Secretary.)

MOTIONS.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL moved—1. That the attention of the Sub-committee appointed to consider what amendments are desirable in the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, be invited to Section 188. 2. That all applications for modifications of the provisions of Section 188, Sub-section 3, of Ordinance No. 1 of 1903, be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary whether the modifications be recommended by the Board or not." More than once, he said, it had been suggested in the Board that Section 188 needed amendment. There was one point in particular in which amendment was necessary, namely, sub-section 3, which provided that no buildings should hereafter be erected exceeding one and a half times the width of the street. That was to say, on a site fronting on a 20 feet street no building could be erected to a greater height than 30 feet. Then the proviso said that in certain streets the height of any building to be re-erected might be equal to the height of the existing building provided that it did not exceed twice the width of the street, so that there could be a 40 feet building in a 20 feet street. This was an obvious absurdity. That was one of the main reasons why he asked that the attention of the sub-committee should be called to the section.

Mr. POLLOCK agreed that it was quite obvious that this section required amendment.

Mr. RUMJAHN supported the remarks of the Registrar-General. He had already suggested the consideration by the sub-committee of this section. It was pointed out then that the sub-committee was dealing only with the question of cubicles and that the matter should be left till later for discussion.

The PRESIDENT remarked that the sub-committee had considered the matter, but had made no recommendation concerning it, one reason being that they were told by the Colonial Secretary that no further recommendation could then be considered unless those dealing with cubicles. He thought the matter might now be referred to the sub-committee.

Mr. POLLOCK pointed out with regard to the second part of the motion that by the wording of the first sentence of the section the Governor in Council would have no power to act in the matter at all except on the recommendation of the Board; therefore he did not see that there would be much use in adopting the second part of the motion.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL agreed that the Governor in Council could do nothing without the recommendation of the Board. His ideal however, was, that where the Board came to a decision which would involve perhaps a claim

of \$10,000 compensation they should let the Government know what was going on. It would be a different thing if the Board had to provide the funds for giving compensation in these cases.

Mr. RUMJAHN said he was also of opinion that the second part of the motion was unnecessary.

The VICE-PRESIDENT mentioned that this matter had already been under consideration; and he thought there was a way out of the difficulty, though he was not in a position as yet to say what that would be.

The PRESIDENT thought they might discuss the matter referred to before the sub-committee.

The first part of the motion was unanimously agreed to.

The PRESIDENT remarked with reference to the second part that all applications such as were referred to came before the Board, and the minutes of the Board went before the Government, so they might leave that matter out. The Government practically was informed at the present time as to whether these applications were refused or not.

The second part of the motion was allowed to drop.

ENCLOSING VERANDAHS.

Further correspondence was submitted re the refusal of the application for permission to fix windows enclosing the second floor verandahs of Nos. 16 and 17, Connaught Road Central, the occupants asking the Board to reconsider their decision.

The M.O.H. wrote:—This will, if granted, be followed certainly by many other applications. The Board have already refused permission to erect even iron bars 6 inches apart on verandahs to keep out thieves. I cannot recommend any reconsideration of the Board's decision.

The President minuted:—I have seen this verandah, and from a public health point of view I fail to see why it should not be granted. There are very few employees on the floor, as machinery is chiefly used, and no one sleeps on it. The question how far verandahs erected over Crown land should be utilised for trade purposes is another question which does not concern the Board.

The PRESIDENT said this was a different case from those in which permission had been refused to erect iron bars on verandahs in Chinese tenement houses. In these cases people were living on these floors, and it was injurious to interfere with free ventilation or light in any way. Here nobody slept on this floor and there were windows which were open practically all day. He thought this was a case where the Board might well grant the permission sought.

Mr. POLLOCK moved that it be granted subject to the condition that the premises were not slept upon, and during the occupation of the present tenant. He thought that would be quite a sufficient safeguard in the circumstances.

Mr. RUMJAHN seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

WELL AT KOWLOON.

With reference to the contaminated well in the rear of Ribeiro's Bungalow, Kowloon, the Registrar-General minuted:—The proper course would be to supply the house with water and leave the well open. If there is water in the kitchen no one will go to the well for it.

The D.P.W.:—I presume this is a non-Chinese house?

The PRESIDENT said it might be allowed to remain open until a connection was made with the main which ran in front of the house.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL remembered Mr. Chadwick having said that it was mostly from the top that wells were contaminated, and he thought they might allow this man to keep his well open if he would cover it over and have a pump put in. He had an acre of ground there and the well was used for watering the garden.

Dr. PEARSE pointed out that Mr. Chadwick's assertion was only partially true. In by far the majority of the cases he could call to mind wells had been contaminated not from the top but from underground drains and cesspools. Care should be taken to see that there were no drain pipes in the proximity of the well, even if it was covered over.

The PRESIDENT explained that the water was contaminated by the way in which the garden was manured.

Dr. MACFARLANE, who had visited the place, stated that that was so. There

was another well for gardening purposes and he did not think that both were needed.

The PRESIDENT moved that the well be ordered to be closed, giving the owner two weeks in which to make the necessary arrangements with the Water Authority for laying on water from the main to the premises.

The VICE-PRESIDENT seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

WELL AT WONGNEICHEONG.

Relative to the order of the Board for the closing of the well at No. 9, Wongneicheong, the owner, Ng Li King, wrote asking the Board to reconsider their decision, as the water was used only for washing and cleansing purposes and watering the plants in the garden.

The PRESIDENT moved that the Board adhere to their former decision.

Mr. POLLOCK seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

ANALYSIS OF MILK.

Mr. A. C. Franklin reported on his analysis of two samples of fresh milk sent to him by Inspector C. W. Brett. The first, bought from a dairy at No. 40, Cochrane Street, was found to be genuine. In the second case, from 57, Elgin Road, Kowloon, analysis showed that the milk was not perfectly mixed before delivery to the purchaser. No opinion as to its genuineness could be expressed, reported the Analyst.

Mr. Pollock minuted:—What is meant by "milk not being perfectly mixed?"

Mr. Hewett:—If, as I gather, the Elgin Road milk has been "doctored," cannot the seller be prosecuted in view of the opinion given by the Analyst?

The PRESIDENT in answer to Mr. Pollock's query said the phrase meant that the milk had been taken from the top of the can, which was more creamy than the bottom. This was milk bought in bottles. It had not been properly mixed before being bottled, and contained too much fat.

WATER ANALYSIS.

The Analyst's report on the water supply for the month of August showed that it was of excellent quality.

LIMEWASHING.

The limewashing return for the fortnight ended 30th August showed that 454 houses in the Eastern District had been limewashed since last report.

RAT RETURN.

During the fortnight ended 5th September, it was reported, 1,059 rats were destroyed. Of these 29 were infected.

There was no other business of public interest before the meeting.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

On the 3rd inst. was held an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of this Bank. Present:—Messrs J. Focke (chairman), G. C. Moxon, Kwan Fong Kuk, (directors), George W. F. Playfair (chief manager), Fung Wa Chun, Chow Shui Ki, H. Pinckney, E. W. Terry, E. D. Haskell, Wai Ki Shang, Ng Chitt Mi, Fung Hoi, etc.

The CHAIRMAN said that when the Bank was started exchange was over 3/ per dollar and capital was laid down in the East at 3/ average, but as exchange had now reached a much lower level it had been felt that capital should be written down to a true basis and it was proposed to ask the Court in London to allow them to do so. They proposed to take the capital at 1s. 8d. which with the addition of balance on 31st December and capital reserve fund and part of ordinary reserve would bring the shares to £5 paid up on a share of £7 instead of £8 paid up on a share of £10. The only other item altered was that their sterling securities had been altered to 1/8 and the difference shown as an addition to the reserve fund. With regard to the abolition of the founders' shares they were at present worth nothing because the directors acknowledged a loss of capital by the fall in exchange and these were first to bear such loss therefore would be absolutely wiped out. But it was proposed that at the subsequent meeting it should be agreed that the founders should be paid at par value of their shares and the founder would get £1 for what was worth nothing at present; and at the same time it was worth the while of the ordinary

shareholder to do this so as to extinguish the right of the founder which might stand in the way of raising additional capital, if desired.

Proxies received for the resolution were 497 ordinary, 279 founders, (for) and 88 ordinary, and 49 founders (against).

Having mentioned this, the Chairman moved "that the capital of the Company be reduced from £1,000,000, divided into 750 shares of £1 each (founders shares), and 99,925 shares of £10 each (Ordinary) to £699,475, divided into 99,925 shares of £7 each, and that such reduction be effected by writing off the whole amount paid or credited as paid on each of the 750 £1 shares and cancelling those shares, and by writing off £3 per share part of the sum of £8 per share which has been paid or credited as paid on the 40,453 shares of £10 each which have been issued, and by reducing each of the 99,925 shares of £10 each to a share of £7."

Mr. NG CHITT-MI seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN announced that a confirmatory meeting would be held on the 24th instant; and thanked those present for attending.

A meeting of ordinary shareholders followed, at which the CHAIRMAN, without much preamble, proposed "that the resolution passed at the extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on the 3rd day of September, 1904, for the reduction of the Company's capital—involving the extinguishment of the founders' shares and the writing off of £3 per share on each of the ordinary shares—being confirmed and sanctioned by the Court, there be paid out of the profits of the Company in priority to any dividend on the ordinary shares to every person at the date of the passing of this Resolution registered as the holder of a founder's share, or founders' shares the sum of £1 for every such share registered in his name, and that the rights belonging to the holders of ordinary shares shall be and the same are hereby altered accordingly."

Proxies in favour of this numbered 15,297 shares, and against it, 88.

Mr. E. W. TERRY seconded.

Carried.

THE ASTOR HOUSE HOTEL CO., LD.

The third annual general meeting of this Company was held at Shanghai on the 22nd August. There were present Messrs. F. Anderson and L. J. Cubitt (Directors), J. Alston, J. O. P. Bland, C. R. Burkill, H. H. Cunningham, R. S. Freeman, H. G. Gardner, W. S. Jackson, E. J. Loureiro, A. R. Leake, G. H. Thomson, H. Brewett (Legal adviser) and A. Levey (Secretary).

The CHAIRMAN: You will see that for the first time we have published a profit and loss account which gives details interesting to the shareholders. In the balance-sheet for the first time the land appears in the assets and the debentures that we have issued against it under the heading of liabilities. The land of the company stands therein at a figure which is very considerably below its market value. The only other item is that the stock of wines is very much lower than it was. It was the opinion of the directors that the stock was very much greater than was necessary for the economical working of the hotel, and therefore their policy has been to reduce it considerably. The new buildings which were erected at the side of the hotel were not open until November of last year, whereas interest on the debentures issued to pay for them began to be paid as early as June, so that we were paying interest for five months before we were in receipt of any revenue from the new buildings. Last year there was a cholera scare in the autumn which materially reduced the revenue of the hotel; in fact the profits up to the 31st December last were very little over \$12,000 owing to the falling off in our receipts, and the great bulk of our income has been made in the six months ending 30th June. This year we have had to suffer from the effects of the war, inasmuch as it has kept away a great many tourists and people who, when passing through China, generally stay here for some time. On the other hand the loss of revenue under that head is made up

by the exceptional number of refugees who came here on the declaration of war. The Hankow part of our property has been most unsatisfactory for a considerable time past. The loss in the past two years came to close upon \$15,000. We have sublet it for five years, and the terms on which we have done so are that we lose about \$800 a year net rental, and the directors have considered that it would be advisable to write down the improvements of the property at the rate of \$4,500 a year, which will practically extinguish the amount under that heading by the time our lease expires, so you may take it that the loss which we provide for amounts to about \$5,500 a year. We have entered into negotiations for the disposal of the garden in the front of the hotel. We were approached by a buyer whose business will not in any way interfere with the hotel. He can safeguard any question of opposition either in the form of a hotel or a boarding-house, but provided we get the sum which we asked, we think there is no doubt that it would be satisfactory to the prosperity of the company if the garden were sold. The price we named was a fairly high one, but we consider that the position is such that it is not too high, and we settled the price after consultation with the trustees of the debenture holders. Since the closing of the accounts, the revenue has been more favourable than it was during the same time last year. We are endeavouring to effect certain economies in the working of the hotel, and if we are successful in carrying them out they should also make a difference in the accounts.

The following resolutions were put to the meeting and carried *nem. dis.*—

Proposed by the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. L. J. CUBITT:—That the report and accounts as presented be passed.

Proposed by Mr. C. R. BURKILL, seconded by Mr. R. S. FREEMAN:—That the appointment of Mr. L. J. Cubitt as director be confirmed.

Proposed by Mr. W. S. JACKSON, seconded by Mr. R. S. FREEMAN:—That Mr. F. C. Heffer be re-elected a director of the company.

Proposed by Mr. H. GEARY GARDNER, seconded by Mr. J. ALSTON:—That the appointment of Mr. Anderson as a director be confirmed.

Proposed by Mr. R. S. FREEMAN, seconded by Mr. C. R. BURKILL:—That Messrs. A. K. Leake and G. H. Thomson, chartered accountants, be re-elected auditors.

The following is the report of the Directors presented at the Third Annual General Meeting.

GENTLEMEN,—The Directors have pleasure in submitting their report and statement of accounts to 30th June, 1904.

From the accompanying statement, it will be seen that there is a disposable balance of \$75,989.01, which the Directors propose to deal with as under:—

To pay a dividend of 10 per cent. absorbing... \$56,000.00

To write off Goodwill Account... 10,000.00

To carry forward... 9,989.01

Ample depreciation has been allowed on Buildings, Plant, Furniture, Fixtures, Cutlery, Napery, etc.

Hankow Branch.—This has been sublet, and the loss is now about \$5,500 a year: this includes a sum for depreciation, which will reduce the book value of our assets at the end of our lease to a nominal sum.

Issue of Capital.—Owing to the increase of the business, rendering the working capital of the Company insufficient for its requirements, the Directors have decided to issue fresh capital to the extent of \$80,000, and to offer same to the shareholders on the register on 22nd August, 1904, at the rate of one new share to every seven old. The shares will be issued at par, and are payable before 30th September, 1904. This new issue will rank for dividend from 1st July, 1904.

Directorate.—Mr. Ayacough resigned his position owing to his departure for home, and Mr. Cubitt has taken his place. His appointment and also that of Mr. F. Anderson, who has joined the Board, require the confirmation of the shareholders. Mr. Heffer, who has been granted leave of absence, retires by rotation, but being eligible, offers himself for re-election

Auditors.—On Mr. Guerrier's departure for home, Mr. Thomson was appointed in his place. Messrs. Leake and Thomson also retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

The accounts are as follows:—

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

For the year ending 30th June, 1904.	\$	c.
To directors', trustees', and auditors' fees	3,546.07	
To interests on debentures	53,588.80	
To Hankow loss	13,060.64	
To balance, net profit	75,989.01	
	\$146,184.52	
By balance transferred from working account, Shanghai	129,564.62	
By transfer fees	298.57	
By dividend	21.56	
By balance brought forward from previous year	16,301.80	
	\$146,184.52	

BALANCE-SHEET

30th June, 1904.

LIABILITIES, ETC.		\$	c.
To share capital:			
Authorized	750,000.00		
Issued and subscribed (22.40 shares of \$25 each)	560,000.00		
To first mortgage 8 per cent. debentures	666,666.66		
Fls. 500,000			
To Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	64,477.70		
To sundry creditors	36,857.04		
To outstanding dividends	327.50		
To outstanding debenture interest	12,778.00		
To profit and loss account:			
Shanghai profit for year ended 30th June, 1904	7,903.92		
Less Hankow loss \$13,060.64			
Directors', trustees', and auditors' fees	3,546.07	16,606.71	
		59,687.21	
Add balance brought forward from 30th June, 1903	16,301.80		
		75,989.01	
		\$1,417,355.91	

ASSETS, ETC.		\$	c.
By cash at bank, on deposit, and on hand	19,118.47		
By sundry debtors	\$38,672.14		
Less—reserve for bad and doubtful debts	1,271.81		
	33,877.30		
By stock of wines, stores, cigars, etc.	25,504.26		
Outlry, crockery, napery, and silverware	39,672.63		
Furniture, fixtures, and fittings	165,227.01		
Plant	12,022.28		
Buildings	337,599.26		
Land	560,000.00		
Hankow improvement	14,573.26		
Less amount written off	1,821.66		
	12,751.60		
Shares—Mutual Telephone	338.58		
China Printing Company	672.82		
	1,011.40		
Unexpired insurance premiums	1,032.70		
Goodwill	20,000.00		
	\$1,417,355.91		

PAKHOL.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

3rd September

EASY WAY TO OBTAIN GUNS.

A licensed junk of about one thousand piculs capacity was peacefully lying at anchor off the Custom House on the night of the 28th ultimo ready to receive a cargo of foreign goods for Yanchow. Out of a crew of eight, four went ashore, and the remaining four had made up their mind to retire to their cabins soon after their evening meal, leaving nobody on the watch. The weather was all that could be desired, with a smooth sea, while the moon was just emerging from the horizon. Besides, there was a guard-boat at anchor scarcely a hundred yards away. Under these circumstances no danger of any kind was apprehended. Between 8 and 9 o'clock, however, to the crew's amazement, they found themselves surrounded by a lot of strangers, whose demeanour convinced them at once they were a gang of old and daring pirates. They were eagerly looking for rifles and ammunition of any kind. The crew, having been found napping, and who, owing to their reduced numbers, could not offer any resistance to the intruders, were compelled to give up the seven rifles they had on board, together with all the ammunition, after which the marauders guiltily slipped into their sampans, but not before threatening vengeance on the junkmen if they should raise any alarm.

PROBABLY THE SAME PARTY.

On the night of the 29th ult. a passenger junk from Saicheong was captured by pirates within sight of this port; in fact the discharge of firearms during the attack could be heard by the people in the harbour, but the numerous guard-boats scattered along the port remained indifferent as if nothing wrong was happening. One of the passengers was killed during the affray and several members of the crew and a few passengers were wounded. The junk was taken to a quiet place named Sam-nin-Wan, and after being relieved of a good portion of her cargo was released, arriving here on the morning of the 30th ultimo.

THUNDERSTORM.

A violent thunderstorm, accompanied by very heavy rain, visited us early on the morning of the 1st instant. A lightning spark caught the mast of a junk, anchored in the centre of the harbour. After reducing the mast into splinters it worked its way into the cabin, killing a man and a young girl. Another spark fell on a public latrine in Salt Fish Street. I hear also that three men were killed by lightning in a village named Tok-si-kun, not far from the town. The heavy rain has not failed to cause inconvenience to those whose roofs are still leaky owing to the late typhoon.

STEAM VERSUS SAIL.

I note with gratification that some of the goods from Canton, especially native cloth, are being imported by steamers instead of by junks as formerly. This is owing, no doubt, to the insecurity of the junk trade at present, which is liable to fall prey to the sea rovers. Apparently the loss of the junk from Kongmoon, reported in my correspondence of the 6th ultimo, did not fail to be appreciated as a lesson by the merchants. It remains now to be seen how the silk piece goods from Canton will reach here by steamers. The differential duty on silk texture, is enormously heavier when carried by steamers through Hongkong.

THE CHANGE OF CURRENCY IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

A *Governments Gazette* "Extraordinary," issued in the Straits Settlements on the 24th ult., proclaims that the British, Mexican, and Hongkong dollars will cease to be legal currency throughout the Straits Settlements after Wednesday, the 31st August, and similar proclamations have been issued by the respective Governments of the various Malay States in the Federation. The announcement reads as follows:—

"Notice is Hereby Given that after the Thirty first Day of August, 1904, British, Mexican and Hongkong Dollars will cease to be Legal Tender and will be no longer received by the Government or by any Public Department."

"The Treasuries and Sub-Treasuries will give Straits Dollars or Notes for the old Dollars being of full weight and unchopped, so far as their balances will permit, up to the date above mentioned."

The notice is not extended, remarks the *Straits Times*, and will probably result in loss to various small holders of alien dollars, as well as considerable inconvenience to collectors, bankers and various other persons concerned. Why the final advice should have been so short, it is difficult to determine. Possibly, however, some reason other than a whim prompts this shortness of the period given by the authorities for the demonetisation of the various alien dollars now circulating in the Colony.

Mr. W. H. Frizell, Chairman of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, and Manager of the Chartered Bank, considers the immediate change a very good thing, and an action conducive to the good of trade generally, by tending to strengthen the stability of the Straits dollar. Mr. Frizell has been urging upon Government the advisability of such action for some time past, and he thinks this as good a time as any for the change. It had to come sooner or later, and as it is obviously for the benefit of the community, the sooner it is effected the better. He points out that no notice at all was required of Government as to the date on which the alien dollars were to be demonetised, and he considers that the week's notice now given is very fair. It is a concession that will prevent any hard-

ship to traders generally being caused by the forced withdrawal of the outside dollars.

Mr. J. C. Nicholson, Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, is also of the opinion that the time is ripe for demonetisation, as at present silver has a downward tendency, which will consequently check any false rise in the face value of the dollar. The time given he considers sufficient for the business portion of the community, but he thinks that discretion must be used for outside people who will have little opportunity of knowing of the demonetisation. To avert this as much as possible, he thinks that it would be advisable to give the greatest publicity to the new ordinance and thus prevent speculators from taking advantage of the ignorant, who probably, on finding that only Straits dollars were legal tender, would sell their alien dollars to 'sharps' for a tithe of their real value. He thinks that the new order will have a beneficial effect on trade, as business people will now know how they stand. If the ordinance against the importation of alien dollars into the colony were repealed as soon as the alien dollars cease to be legal currency, Mr. Nicholson is of the opinion that it would have a still more beneficial effect, as in the recent past—since the passing of the ordinance in question—dollars were smuggled in from outside ports to take advantage of the premium they possessed in Singapore, thus denuding of coinage the places where they came from, and thus causing much inconvenience. If the ordinance be repealed, the alien dollar will be in exactly the same position as the guilder.

Anxious and unlearned people, says the *Free Press*, are asking:—What is the effect on exchange going to be? What are they going to fix the dollar at? The effect of currency changes cannot be predicted with the certainty that may be used as to the effects of prolonged visits to Monte Carlo or Johore. There the result of the system is inevitable. We can only guess at the effects of currency changes. As regards exchange, the present step ought to produce no result, and probably will not. We shall go on just the same, until the demand for dollars leads someone to ask the Treasury for them. Then the answer will be "We will sell you a hundred for a draft on London for £10," or Ten Guineas, or whatever sum the Treasurer of the day thinks he can get. Then exchange will rise. Where it will stop, or when it will reach 2/-, no man knows, but it may be borne in mind that to raise the rupee in India to 1/4d. took seven years.

THE OPENING OF CHANGSHA.

Changsha, the heart of conservatism and anti-foreign envy, hatred, malice and all uncharitableness, is to be opened to foreign trade, and Viceroy Wei Kuang-tao, as Superintendent of Southern Trade, has drawn up a certain code of rules on which international trade should be conducted there.

1.—This Trading centre being opened voluntarily by China will be entirely under the administration of Chinese officials specially appointed for the post.

2.—A Chinese Municipal Council will be organized after the pattern of foreign settlements, but entirely under Chinese control.

3.—All land purchases and other business will be conducted by the President of this Council without foreign interference. The Council will draw up regulations in regard to building of houses, godowns and other premises within the selected area, and no straw huts or wooden houses must be constructed by either Chinese or foreigners, unless by special permission. No one will be allowed to store explosives on their premises under penalty of fine.

4.—All persons of whatever nationality shall be under the protection and control of the Chinese Government in accordance with treaty stipulations; and a police force shall be organized by the President of the Council in conjunction with the Commissioner of Customs.

5. All roads and public works will be undertaken by the Council, and to meet these expenses a duty of 2 per cent. will be levied on all import and export duties paid by both foreigners and Chinese.

6.—In order to facilitate intercourse between the Chinese authorities and foreigners, the

foreign Consuls and the Commissioner of Customs may select a foreign merchant or resident who pays more than \$20 in taxes to the Council, to take part in the Chinese conferences on matters of importance.

7.—In order to facilitate trade foreign merchants will be allowed to rent or purchase portions of the river foreshore and erect wharfs for landing and discharging cargo, but they must in no way infringe on any of the public thoroughfares; and any extension of their premises must be provided for well in advance, so that the authorities may reserve 10 feet or more of adjacent land against public requirements.

8.—In order to avoid disputes no one will be allowed to purchase or occupy more than 250 English feet of land on the river front, otherwise the demands of all cannot be met, and \$15 per mu per annum will be charged as land tax to foreigners and Chinese alike.

9.—No buildings can be erected on the foreshore without permission being first obtained from the Chinese authorities.

10.—The Chinese Government is willing to administer the settlements in accordance with the most modern and advanced methods, the lease being for 60 years from date of opening. The foreign Consuls and Commissioner of Customs are invited to make known their ideas on the subject, and if found feasible their suggestions will be adopted.

We give these regulations, which illustrate the great distinction drawn by China between Treaty Ports and Trading Centres which she voluntarily opens, and to open which there is an increasing tendency we notice. Several memorials have recently gone up to the Throne urging the opening of this place and that, and at first glance the tendency appears a rather satisfactory one. But closer investigation lessens the charm, and one recognizes in the movement the finely shaved narrow end of the wedge of Chinese jurisdiction. The close of the present war will, it we mistake not, see numerous places thrown open to international trade in Manchuria and elsewhere, but Viceroy Wei's basis of operations will not be far be workable or beneficial, either to foreign commercial interests, or eventually to China's own.

—P. & T. Times

ALLEGED FOREIGN PIRACY AT SHANGHAI.

Two years ago in August the yacht *Aguac*, owned by Mr. G. A. Derby, was stolen from near the Ewo Jetty by three men. On August 31st the *Thresher*, one of the biggest yachts on the river, suffered a similar fate. Until recently she was owned by Mr. Murray-Adamson, but she was purchased only a few weeks ago by three gentlemen in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. They had frequently gone out for a sail at night, and consequently the River Police suspected nothing when the yacht was seen moving down river with sails up shortly before 11 p.m. The next that was heard of her was a message from Mr. Hansen, Harbour Master at Woosung, asking Inspector Mellows to come down at once and bring the vessel back.

It appears that about 10 p.m. on Wednesday the yacht was boarded by three foreigners, who came up to her in a sampan. There was only a Chinese on board at the time, and he, thinking his masters had come, went ashore to call the laodah. Meanwhile the foreigners put a large box and some other luggage on board. The laodah hurried down and put off in a small boat, but he was forcibly prevented from coming on board. He hired a small house-boat sampan and followed the yacht down river. When he arrived at Woosung he reported to the Harbour Master, who immediately dispatched a launch in pursuit. The *Thresher* was caught and towed back and watch was kept over her all night. One of the foreigners on board, Patrick Burns, who was quite intoxicated, took a lifebuoy and jumped overboard, but he was safely fished out again after being 20 minutes in the water.

Next morning Inspector Mellows went down to Woosung and brought the foreigners and the yacht up to Shanghai. They were landed at the Customs Jetty about two o'clock, where Detective Sergeant Gilfillan took charge of

them on behalf of the Municipal Police. They were then escorted to Hongkew to be placed under lock and key.

The alleged pirates were found to have taken on board a large stock of provisions—edible and drinkable—and it was evidently their intention to make for Japan. Had the wind been favourable there is little doubt but that they would have got away.

The names of the three men arrested on board are—Carl Klängenberg, a Swede, who seems to have been the leader of the affair; Laurence Christopherson, a Dane; and Patrick Burns, an Irish-American. Klängenberg was formerly a salt watcher in the Customs here, and it is alleged that he was seen smuggling in salt at a jetty on the Yangtsepo Road on Wednesday afternoon. The salt was confiscated, but Klängenberg escaped. Laurence Christopherson has also been in the Customs employ. Burns is unemployed. When the men were brought to Hongkew they were still in an intoxicated condition and laughed and talked in a maudlin way until locked up. The laodah said he was threatened with a revolver, but this weapon very likely was a product of his imagination, as no weapon of any kind was found on board. The box and a large canvas bag they had taken on board with them were full of clothes and knick-knacks. They also took with them a good supply of whisky and cigars. The accused will probably be charged with piracy in taking the yacht, before their respective Consuls to-day.

While in temporary possession of the yacht, the men contrived to do a great deal of damage. They appear to have broken open several boxes of clothing, in order to wear the garments; a clock, glass-ware and other things have been smashed, and a stay was broken in collision with the Red Buoy at Woosung. The unfortunate owners are likely to be out of pocket between \$200 and \$300 for damage alone. —N. C. Daily News.

THE U.S. CONSUL AT SHANGHAI.

The *Journal of the American Asiatic Association*, a copy of which has been sent to us, publishes an extraordinary petition which has been presented by American residents of Shanghai to the President, reflecting on Mr. John Goodnow, the Consul-General of the United States at Shanghai. It is signed by thirteen missionaries and seven representatives of foreign firms, including among the latter the managers of the American Trading Company and the China and Japan Trading Company. We say that the petition is extraordinary because it is so curiously vague in its terms. It brings no specific charge against the Consul-General, and admits that in a court of law the signatories could not be permitted to testify to any particular act to show that the standing of a man was not good, but it relies on the phrase "general reputation." The petition commences by saying that the signatories know the official standing of Mr. Goodnow, have heard that standing generally discussed, and desire to bring it to the attention of the President. It then proceeds as follows:—

"In a court of law we could not be permitted to testify to any particular act to show that the standing of a man was not good, but we would be asked if we knew his general reputation. Acknowledging the justice of this principle, we do not, therefore, propose to direct Your Excellency's attention to any one act, but we state that the official standing of the Consul-General is not good, and that his course here has not inspired the confidence of the substantial foreign residents of this port. We do not feel safe under his administration, and we deeply regret to write that we do not."

"We are loyal to our flag, and we beg that you will have it represented by a man who embodies in his official conduct its high mission."

We do not know what allegations are made against Mr. Goodnow, but we should think that the petition is unique in making charges in general terms without descending to particulars. It has been often said that United States Consuls in the Far East are at the mercy of the American Mission Boards, who are powerful enough to have any Consul removed unless he takes steps on every occasion to show sympathy

with their work. To judge from the course taken by the missionary gentlemen of Shanghai there would seem to be a good deal of truth in the statement. In signing this remarkable petition they set out their various offices in full as thus—F. R. Graves, Missionary Bishop, Protestant Episcopal Church; F. L. Hawis Pott, President of St. John's College, Shanghai; A. P. Parker, President Anglo-Chinese College; Robert E. Lewis, Foreign Secretary International Committee Young Men's Christian Associations, and so on for all the thirteen names. At the bottom appear the signatures of the seven commercial representatives, whose sense of justice might have been expected to prevent them from attaching their names to a document so worded that it was impossible for the person assailed to make a reply. We understand that the result of the petition has been that an investigation has been made by the U.S. Department of State. There may be grave causes of complaint against the U.S. Consul-General at Shanghai, but the petition and its publication while the inquiry was in progress scarcely shows the possession of a keen sense of justice among his accusers. *Kobe Chronicle*.

LOCAL SPORT.

HONGKONG GYMKHANA.

Committee:—Stewards H.K. Jockey Club (ex-officio), Messrs P. Alderton, T. F. Hough, J. F. Knox, Cpt. Nugent, G. H. Potts. Clerk of the Scales: Mr. J. A. Jupp. Judge: Mr. R. P. White. Starters: Messrs G. H. Potts (1), W. W. G. Ross (2).

Time-keeper: Mr. J. R. Michael. Hon. Sec. and Treasurer: Mr. G. K. H. Brutton.

The third gymkhana was held on the 3rd inst. being favoured with fine weather. There was an exceptionally good attendance. H.E. Sir Matthew Nathan watched some of the races. The band of the Sherwood Foresters played selections during the afternoon. The races were poor, some of them being little more than at a jog trot. This, of course, was to some extent due to the rain-sodden nature of the turf. The surprise of the day was Little Momo's victory in the first event. She paid her only backer in the pari-mutuel \$508. Little Momo must really have been trained up to a very high degree, as two victories in one day and one of them the Gymkhana Club Challenge Cup—entailed considerable strain.

Little Momo, however, is built for heavy going, and it was staying power that helped most. The stewards of the Club are to be congratulated on the general arrangements. Results were as follows:—

ONE-AND-QUARTER MILE.

A handicap flat race for all China ponies. Jockeys who have won an official race in Hongkong or China penalized 2lb. Jockeys who have never won an official race in Hongkong or China allowed 5lb. Entrance fee \$5. First prize: A Cup presented by W. B. Dixon, Esq.; second prize: \$25. Result:—

Mr. Brutton's Little Momo, 11st. 11lb. (Owner) * 1
Capt. Ward's Royal, 11st. 2lb. (Mr. Johnstone) * 2
Mr. D. Macdonald's Arranapogue, 10st. 11lb. (Mr. Clarke) \$ 3
Mr. Inglis' Eclipse, 11st. 3lb. (Owner) † 0
Mr. G. H. Potts' Pandur, 11st. 4lb. (Hon. Gresson) * 0
Mr. Craig's Father O'Flynn, 11st. (Owner) † 0
* 2lb. penalty; † 11lb. over; ‡ 2lb. over; § 5lb. allowed.

Hon. W. J. Gresson's Glenburn, and Mr. W. G. Clarke's Standard scratched for this event. At the fall of the flag the six ponies went off in a bunch. Passing the judge's box for the first time Arranapogue had a lead, and was followed by Little Momo and Royal. All of them were taking it very easily. Towards the football matched Little Momo drew up into first place, distancing the others up hill to the black rock. Approaching the village Royal snatched second place from Arranapogue. Little Momo won the race by three lengths.

Time: 2 min. 56 sec.

Pari-mutuel: \$508

TENT PEGGING.

Best of three runs. Points for pace and style. Entrance fee, \$5. Post entries. First prize: presented by G. H. Potts, Esq.; 2nd: by the Club. Result:—

Mr. W. A. Cruickshank 1
Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton 2
Mr. H. W. Looker 0

Mr. W. G. Clarke scratched. On the first run each competitor was successful in spearing the peg—and going at good pace. All except Mr. Hall Brutton missed on the second try; and all except Messrs. Looker and Cruickshank on the third. Mr. Cruickshank by far excelled the others in style; and second prize was very rightly awarded to Mr. Hall Brutton.

Pari-mutuel: \$7.50.

FIVE FURLONGS.

A flat race for all China ponies which have never won a race. Weight for inches as per scale. Unplaced ponies allowed 3lb. Jockeys who have won an official race in Hongkong or China penalized 2lb. Jockeys who have never won an official race in Hongkong or China allowed 5lb. Entrance fee \$5. First Prize: a cup presented by G. R. Hall Brutton. Esq.; 2nd \$25. Result:—

Mr. W. G. Clarke's Alarm, 10st. 11lb. (Owner) * 1
Mr. Babington's Rocket, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Rutherford) 2
Mr. E. Howard's Teetotum, 10st. 8lb. (Mr. Gresson)† 3
Mr. Alleynian's Modesty, 10st. 7lb. (Mr. Jordan) * 0

Mr. J. Paterson's Zufall, 11st. 3lb. (Mr. Johnstone)† 0
* 8lb. allowed; † 1lb. penalty; ‡ 2lb. overweight.
Mr. G. B. Macdonald's Go Bang, Mr. Godfrey Master's Grafton, Mr. MacIntyre's Persistence, and Mr. D. Macdonald's Arranapogue all scratched for this race. Rocket and Alarm, the former on the rails, got the best start and maintained their lead throughout, drawing away from the bunch when approaching the black rock. Alarm passed Rocket at the village, ran right away in the straight, and won handsomely by four lengths.

Time: 1 min. 22 1-5 sec.

Pari-mutuel: \$11.70.

LADIES' NOMINATION RACE.

A ball and bucket race. Each gentleman had to gallop up the straight past his nominator, who threw a ball for him to catch as he galloped by. The ball (when caught) was to be thrown into a bucket placed farther up the course. Best of three runs. Points for pace. Post entries. Prize: presented by the Club. Result:—

Mr. Brutton nom. by Mrs. Hall Wright 1
Mr. J. Paterson nom. by Mrs. Goetz 2
Mr. Looker nom. by Mrs. G. Stewart 0
Mr. Clarke nom. by Mrs. Crawford 0
Mr. J. Johnstone nom. by Miss Bird 0
Mr. Gillingham nom. by Miss Stevens 0
Mr. Woodgate nom. by Mrs. Grace 0
Capt. Pennell nom. by Miss Knight 0
Capt. Napier nom. by Miss Watts 0

On the first attempt all competitors failed to catch the ball. Mr. J. Paterson and Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton both caught the ball on the third attempt, but missed the bucket. They had an extra try, and caught the ball but missed the bucket again. The judge gave a decision in favour of Mr. Hall Brutton.

Pari-mutuel: \$14.20.

GYMKHANA CLUB CHALLENGE CUP.

For all China Ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners of an open race or open griffin race 5lb. extra; non-winning Subscription Griffins allowed 5lb.; jockeys that have won an official race in Hongkong or China 2lb. extra; non-winning jockeys allowed 5lb. To be won by the pony scoring most marks in the races for the Cup by the end of the Club's season, counting 4 for a first, 2 for a second, and 1 for a third. The benefit of marks already scored to pass with the pony on a sale. Any winner of the race to carry 5lb. extra for each win in subsequent starts for the Cup. Penalties accumulative up to 15lb. Five to start or no race. One Mile. Fee \$5, to go in the purchase of a memento to the winner of each race, and \$25 to second pony out of the Club funds. Result:—

Mr. G. H. Potts' Desert King, 11st. 5lb. (Hon. Gresson) Dead
Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton's Little Momo, 10st. 12lb. (Owner) Heat

Mr. S. Inglis' Eclipse, 11st. 11lb. (Owner) 0
Mr. G. H. Potts' Pandur, 11st. 8lb. (Mr. Alderton) 0
Mr. J. Johnstone's Ca Canny, 11st. 10lb. (Mr. Johnstone) 0
Mr. W. G. Clarke's Standard, 10st. 5lb. (Mr. Clarke) 0

Hon. Gresson, on Desert King, got the best position at the rails, and the best start, with Mr. Hall Brutton, on his Little Momo, holding his pony back, keeping time to him. They kept thus to the straight when, in a most exciting finish, and much whipping, Desert King and Little Momo came in neck-and-neck—a dead heat. Standard was third.

Time: 2 min. 16 sec.

Pari-mutuel (on two ponies): \$21.90.

At the conclusion of the races the heat was run off. Both ponies went round together. Little Momo finally winning in good style by half-a-length.

Little Momo 1
Desert King 2
Marks in the competition at present stand as follows:

Mr. J. Johnstone's Ca Canny 8
Mr. G. H. Potts' Desert King 5
Mr. G. K. H. Brutton's Little Momo 5
Mr. W. G. Clarke's Standard 3
Mr. Percy's Discord 1
Mr. Inglis' Eclipse 0
Mr. Woodgate's Starling 0
Mr. A. Babington's Rocket 0
Mr. J. H. Lewis' Muscatel 0

HURDLE RACE.

For China Ponies. Catch weights 10st. 10lb. Ponies winners of one jump race to carry 3lb. extra; of two or more jump races 6lb. extra. Jockeys who have won an official race in Hongkong or China, penalized 2lb. Distance about 1 mile. Entrance fee \$5. First Prize: presented by V. H. Deacon, Esq.; 2nd: \$25. Result:—

Hon. W. J. Gresson's Glenburn, 11st. 12lb. (Owner) 1
Mr. Gillingham's Muscatel, 10st. 10lbs. (Mr. Alderton) 2
Mr. W. J. Paterson's Zufall, 10st. 12lbs. (Mr. Mackie) 3
Mr. Babington's Ben Wyvis, 11st. 5lbs. (Mr. Gillingham) 0
Mr. Woodgate's Starling, 11st. 11lb. (Mr. Johnstone) 0
Mr. Babington's Rocket, 11st. 5lbs. (Mr. Rutherford) 0

All took the hurdles in good style, not one of them being knocked down. They were small hurdles, certainly, but so were the ponies. Passing the judges' stand first time Glenburn led; Starling, 2; Zufall, 3—and this was the order at the finish.

Pari-mutuel: \$26.80.

TRADE ITEMS.

The *Hipsang* was insured for \$26,500. War risks had gone up to 80s. per cent., but have probably dropped since this report. The demand is greater than the supply of first-class underwriters.

Mr. N. Paquet has arrived in Tientsin to take up the position of engineer in chief to the Mining Company at Tongshan. Mr. Paquet has had much mining experience in Belgium, Servia and Venezuela.

Mr. A. Bune, shipbroker, has received the following telegram from his Saigon agents:— "Vessels arriving from Hongkong and Swatow are no longer subject to quarantine." Messrs Lamke and Rogge have received a telegram from Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co., of Saigon, to a similar effect, mentioning Amoy with the other two ports.

The financial report and statements of the Straits Settlements for the year 1903 have been laid before the Council and published. The actual revenue of the Colony was \$7,958,496, and the actual expenditure \$8,185,787, a deficit of \$227,456, less than half the deficit calculated when the estimates were made up. This result is due to the large excess of revenue, and the non-completion of public works. Almost all the important sources of revenue show excesses, the post and telegraphs of \$138,002, the railway of \$95,485, and the land revenue of \$42,469 being the largest.

The Shanghai Mixed Court has fined three members of the Ningpo Guild of Carpenters \$100 each for intimidation, and compelled them to sign an undertaking that they would not again interfere with the free employment of labour. The Chinese guild system seems to be trade unionism run mad.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* states that as a result of representations made to the home authorities, the following employees of the Imperial Chinese Railway Service have been awarded the China medal and clasp for 1900. Messrs. Kinder, C.M.G., Cox, Foley, Whitcombe, Griffith, Jamieson, McLelland, Clarke, Ploughman, Franklin, Moore, Rickerby, Sheriff, Wheeler, Dixon jr., Dr. Moorhead, Newmarch, Roberts, Terris, and Tumber. On the rim of the medal is inscribed the name of the recipient and the letters I.C.R. The medal was distributed from the head office a short time ago.

Owing to the great demand for firearms by the various Imperial forces who are engaged in fighting against the insurgents in Kuangsi, says the *Tientsin Official Gazette*, the Viceroy of Liang-Kuang has ordered some sets of modern gun and rifle manufacturing machines from a well-known foreign firm for the use of the East and the West Arsenals, which, it is reported, will be shifted to Ching-yuan-hsien in the near future, because the present buildings are rather exposed. Taotai Wang has been ordered by the Viceroy to proceed to that district to select a large piece of land for the purpose. The expense will be defrayed from the funds collected from the Government salt monopoly in Kwangtung.

A rich vein of gold is reported to have been discovered in Iwate prefecture (Japan). According to a vernacular contemporary, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, Senge district, in Iwate prefecture, has long been known as being rich in minerals, but hitherto very little gold has been worked. It being believed that gold existed, charters have been obtained for the purpose of making trial diggings, and some of these have been found to promise well. Recently the Government sent experts to inspect the diggings, and as a result a large vein of gold was discovered. Consequently the district has now been declared by the Finance Department to be reserved as a mining exploration zone. As a result of investigations made up to the present, the extent of the vein and the quality of the gold produced are stated to be unrivalled in the country. If the expectations formed are justified, the Senge district of Iwate prefecture is likely to become the largest gold-producing district in Japan.

A recent judgment in the Federal Court of the United States, by Judge Evans, lays down the general principles of the law relating to strikes, defining the relative position and rights of all parties. As those general principles seem to be adopted by the American Federation of Labour as the basis of action by trade unionists, it may be useful, says *Engineering*, to briefly set forth the several points:—1. Every person has the right to work for anyone who will employ him. 2. Every person has a right to employ anyone who wishes to work. 3. Those who wish to strike may lawfully do so if no contracts prevent; and even if a contract is violated, they may do so, subject to damages. 4. Employers may resort to a lock-out—subject, of course, to damages in case of breach of contract. 5. Labour unions are perfectly legitimate, and possibly necessary. 6. Peaceful and kindly arguments and persuasion are perfectly admissible from members of labour unions to induce persons not to take the place of those on strike or locked out; but all manner of violence in connection therewith is wrongful and unlawful. In those cardinal principles the whole philosophy of a strike is covered as regards employers and employed alike. Yet within compass of those principles questions may arise of a serious character—as, for example, the effect of a combination of men upon the non-union men who may desire to remain at work or to go in and take the places of those who are out. Conformity is the desire of employers, as well as of the employed, and those who do not conform are often subject to pains and penalties, as to which the law cannot take cognisance. The personal rights of the individual have thus to be considered.

The number of Chinese at present settled in Hawaii is given officially as 25,762. The Japanese in the island number 61,116. The late governor of the territory recommended that a limited number of Chinese labourers should be admitted to the territory conditionally on their engaging only in agricultural, mill, and domestic work during their stay, and subject to deportation at their own expense upon their ceasing to do so. The introduction of such labourers would, if authorised, says the British Consul, be a great boon to the planters.

The Seoul-Fusan Railway Company recently applied for 2,300,000 yen subsidy to complete the construction of its line. The Government has decided to advance the company 1,580,000 yen as a grant-in-aid for this purpose. The difference between the sum requested and the sum advanced will be made good by the curtailment of the expenditures of the company. As to the method of redemption, it is reported, says the *Japan Daily Advertiser*, that no repayment will be made for five years, during which period no interest will be exacted. After the lapse of this period the subsidy will be repaid in yearly instalments of about 50,000 yen.

The Administration of Salt Revenue in Burma reports, *inter alia*, that "the most marked feature of the year's trade in foreign salt was the attempt made by the shippers of Liverpool salt to recover the position which was held by salt of British manufacture up to the year 1894. Imports of this salt rose from 332,474 maunds to 579,236 maunds and the proportion of the total imports increased from 24 per cent. (1902) to 42 per cent. The total quantity of German salt imported decreased slightly, and the proportion fell from 59 per cent. to 57 per cent. The import of salt from other foreign countries and other provinces of India in the course of the year was inappreciable."

HONGKONG.

Mr. L. H. Hussey, late chief officer of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s s.s. *Yiksang*, has been appointed captain of the *Loksang*.

Messrs. Blackhead & Co. are coaling the Italian cruiser *Elba*. She arrived from Shanghai on the 3rd inst.

Mr. Peter Quincey, a graduate of the Hongkong Medical College, has been appointed to the medical staff of the coolie emigration department and leaves shortly on one of the transports for South Africa.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased, subject to the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to appoint Geoffrey Norman Orme, Passed Cadet, to be Assistant Secretary to the Sanitary Board, vice Joseph Horsford Kemp, promoted, with effect from the 1st instant.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Lieutenant Hugh Wilfred Thomas Smith, Royal Garrison Artillery, to be extra Aide-de-Camp with the local rank of Captain from the 1st instant, and Captain William Armstrong, Hongkong Volunteers, to be Honorary Aide-de-Camp.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks donations of five dollars each from Yau Shang, Ni Shing Hing, Shing Un, Fun Kat, Wing Cheung Shing, Yau Kee, Wing On, Wo Fung, Tseung On, Ming San, Shing Tak, Sui Kat, Hung U, Fuk Tai, Shii Lung, Shii Un, Lai Tsun, and Wing Shang.

Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, a police magistrate from the New Territory, was on the 6th inst. administered (by H.E. the Governor, assisted by Mr. Ross, Clerk of Councils) the oath of allegiance and the magistrate's oath, in which he swore to serve truly and well as a police magistrate at Hongkong, administering justice impartially. Mr. J. R. Wood has taken Mr. Wolfe's place in the New Territory.

Mr. L. A. M. Johnston, the Postmaster-General, has sent a circular letter to various gentlemen in the Colony, reading as follows:—"Sir,—His Excellency the Governor is of opinion that the Hongkong Volunteer Corps is not of the strength required to enable it to take its proper share in the defence of the Colony. I shall be much obliged if you will let me know whether you are willing to join the Corps and also whether you have been a Volunteer before."

Six Indian constables, returned from leave were recently re-enlisted in the Hongkong Police Force.

At Sutherland Street a collapsing house has had to be propped up; another at Pokfulam Road; and another in Des Vaux Road West—as a result of the recent rains.

We are officially informed that the quarantine restrictions imposed against arrivals from Hongkong have been removed both at Singapore and Saigon. Telegrams to that effect have reached the Colonial Secretary.

At the Public Works Department recently Mr. L. C. Rees, Principal Land Surveyor, put up for sale by auction two lots of Crown land. Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1,158, Austin Road and Kimberley Road, 16,945 square feet, with an annual rent of \$136, was sold for \$6,120 (\$20 above the upset price) to Captain Boyd, R.A. The other subject of sale was Inland Lot No. 1,721, near Shauiwan Road, Tsatszemui, 17,675 square feet in area, with an annual rental of \$142. It was exposed at an upset price of \$5,303 and was knocked down at \$5,323 to Mr. A. Essabhoj.

The case of Mr. A. W. Symons, who figured in the Supreme Court recently in connection with a claim against him by a Chinese contractor for building a mat roof, serves as still another instance of the clashing that occurs between some of the Government departments. Mr. Symons is a waxworks proprietor. For the housing of his show he obtained the permission of the P.W.D. to erect a matshed. This was done. Then a Sanitary Board inspector came along and ordered that the matshed be pulled down as being inflammable and dangerous. This order had to be obeyed, and the proprietor was forced to erect canvas sides and roofs, thus being put to double expense by the carelessness of someone or other of the P.W.D. servants.

On the 3rd inst. the portrait of H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G., subscribed for by the Chinese community on the occasion of His Excellency's departure from the Colony, was removed from the Commercial Union Insurance Co.'s offices on the Praya to the Tung Wah Hospital, where it is to be permanently hung. The removal was attended with much ceremony. A Chinese procession was formed, and the portrait was borne through the streets to the hospital in a special conveyance, richly decorated, such as one sees at Chinese marriages, though on a more gorgeous scale. A large number of the influential Chinese in the Colony were present at the hospital to witness the formal handing over of the portrait, which is a very fine likeness of His Excellency.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Captain Barnes, of the 1st Chinese Regiment, has been appointed Transvaal Emigration Agent for Shantung.

Since coolies are the chief beasts of traction in China, ought not motorists here to reckon their automobiles as of so many coolie power? In the case of some cars, the odour would help the estimator.

The cashier of Messrs. Hogan and Ross, Penang, has gone astray with \$10,335. He was given cheques for \$10,000 and \$4,665, and \$335 in notes. He cashed the former, taking \$8,000 in silver, presented the second cheque; but never went back for the money.

The Shanghai Union, which some time ago started the report that one of the oldest and foremost citizens of the northern port, the editor of the *N.-C. Daily News*, was about to retire, has since withdrawn the statement. We, having been misled by the Union, have to withdraw it also.

A fire at Binan, Laguna, P.I., has resulted in the loss of four or five lives and the destruction of several blocks of nipa and bamboo houses. One of the lives lost was that of an infant, who was left in the burning house while the father rushed to save his game-cock.

The average minimum of the thermometer in the Shanghai Settlement in August was 75.2, the average maximum 87.6, and the mean 81.4, against 78.5, 92.4, and 85.4, respectively, in August 1903. The rainfall in August was 2.81 inches, and rain fell measurably on 9 days, against 1.7 inches and 8 days in August 1903, and an average of 6.08 inches and 10½ days for the twenty-two years 1882-1903.

The new Kiutoan light-vessel was launched without ceremony from Messrs. Farnham, Boyd & Co.'s Pootung yard on August 29th, and anchored in midstream, awaiting completion and the erection of her light. She has been built to the designs of Mr. J. R. Harding, Chief Engineer of the I.C.S. at Shanghai, and there are only about two other ships of her particular character in existence. She is of steel and will be gas-lighted, and it is hoped to get her into position in about a month's time or less.

"The words in a summons are works of art," explained Mr. Plowden last month to a police court defendant, who after having had occasion to express forcibly his opinion of a constable, objected to that official summoning him for being "a loose and idle person." "Loose and idle person, indeed!" repeated the defendant in great wrath. "Oh, you must not take these words too literally," said the magistrate soothingly. "they really mean you are most industrious—and fast. You pay 2s., and then you will be loose."

In a neighbouring foreign Colony something like consternation has been caused in official circles by a certain state of affairs which has arisen. Recently the British Vice-Consul went on leave, and as his *locum tenens*, there was appointed the Commissioner of Chinese Customs. One can see that it would hardly suit the book of the officials to have these dual positions merged in one foreigner who would be able, as it were, to use both ends of the wire in carrying out his double duties. What the outcome will be remains to be seen. The officials, however, in all probability will protest in vain, for the right of the Consul-General to appoint whom he likes as Vice-Consul seems unquestionable.

The foreign residents of Japan who have not heard of Mr. John Hartley and his thirty years old complaint against the Japanese Government are few. Mr. Hartley, now in Shanghai, has sent us a book published by Kelly & Walsh, in which are bound together, all higgledy-piggledy, the letters, papers, newspaper cuttings, &c., which Mr. Hartley has accumulated during the quarter of a century he has nursed his grievance. We are all sorry for him, but there seems no doubt that Mr. Hartley did persist in importing opium against the wishes of the Japanese authorities. In fact, he admits it, and defends it; and in pestering everybody, the late Queen, the King, numerous Ministers and M.P.'s, Marquis Ito, the British Consuls, &c., &c., Mr. Hartley has come to be a familiar figure, almost as much to be dreaded as to be pitied. Of course the thing has become a sort of habit, or monomania, by this time; and his acquaintances may now avoid boredom at a cost of \$1.50, the sum charged for Mr. Hartley's brochure. Careful study of it will show that there was much to be said on both sides, for Mr. Hartley seems to have omitted nothing, even of the points that tell against him.

The number of residents of Shanghai who were contemporaries of Mr. Alfred Charles Westall is getting very small, but there are still a few to whom the news of his death on the 23rd of July last means a very heavy personal loss, and there are still a great many who knew him well and loved him as one of the kindest-hearted and most popular men who ever came to China. He came here, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, considerably more than forty years ago to the firm of Smith, Kennedy & Co., in which his brother Robert, who retired from Foochow only last year, was one of the partners. "Daddy" Westall, as he was affectionately called, soon became one of the leading men here. He and the late Mr. E. W. Batt laid out the present ground of the Shanghai Cricket Club; he was an enthusiastic rowing man, a most valuable member of the A.D.C., a Shanghai Ringer, and afterwards a Mib-bo-loong; in fact, he was a keen sportsman all round. And he was a hard-working business man withal. His wife, who was most popular here too, died some years ago, and he leaves a daughter and four sons who, we are glad to know, are well provided for. He was one of the men who made Shanghai what it is. He died in harness, being struck down in his office in London by apoplexy, and the only intelligible remark he made after he was taken home to die was to ask after one of his sons, who had just undergone successfully an operation for appendicitis.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 27th August, 1904. Fifth Crop.—The weather is now very favourable, and prospects are so far promising for the 5th crop as to quality. The quantity will be rather reduced, owing to the scarcity of mulberry leaves, the cost of which has risen from \$1.00 to \$3.50 per picul. Long-reels.—The gradual fall in Exchange has made transactions easier; and the fortnight under review has been very active. But the prices asked for 4th crop Silk are so high, that they begin to check the business. Fine sizes are in good demand, but they are very scarce and exceedingly dear. Natives * 11/13-13/15-14/18, continue to be the favourite article. From sales made we quote:—Wing Cheong Sing 11/13 at \$895 (in 4th crop), and in 3rd crop; On Wo Hing 11/13 at \$795; Kwong Seng 13/15 and Mee Kee 13/15 at \$780; Miu Lun On 18/22 at \$695; Soey Wo Cheong 11/13-13/15-14/18 at \$737; Yee Wo Hing 16/20, 18/22 and 30/40 at \$685, \$690 and \$625 respectively. Short-reels.—The advance has continued in all grades, especially in crack chops. The large demand from New York has nearly exhausted the stocks in 2nd and 3rd crops, and big contracts have been booked for 4th crop at very high prices. Waste Silk.—There has been more enquiry from the home markets, but still at very low limits. The holders are firmer in their views, and not disposed to sell as freely as before, expect for "Market extra unopened" stock of which is very heavy.

* By "Native" or "Market Cargo" we mean Best 3me ordre and 3me ordre.

TEA.

The export from Hankow to 20th August as per Customs Returns stands thus:—

Season.	Exports.	Re-exports.
1904-1905.....	41,278,969 lbs.	13,011,444 lbs.
1903-1904.....	32,668,312 ..	12,085,036 ..
1902-1903.....	35,100,345 ..	13,380,732 ..
Total 1904/5.		Total 1903/4.

Via Shanghai.

To Great Britain ..	6,333,676 lbs.	6,161,215 lbs.
.. United States and Canada.....	3,757,309 ..	4,116,106 ..
.. Continent	4,236,829 ..	1,884,381 ..
.. Russia in Europe ..	106,883 ..	13,184,737 ..
.. do. via North ..	— ..	14,618,565 ..
.. Shanghai	2,759,687 ..	3,441,118 ..

The export of tea from Amoy and Formosa this season has been as follows to 27th August:—

	1904 lbs.	1903 lbs.
To United States.....	9,821,239	10,639,942
.. London	344,185	128,550
.. Elsewhere	27,045	11,963

The arrivals at Amoy have been 221,804 half chests of Tamsui Oolong and no stocks remain.

The tea exports from Shanghai to 22nd August were:—

	Black.	Green.
To Great Britain	24,502,813	636,669
.. United States.....	4,323,731	532,100
.. other European ports	19,968,628	599,869
.. To Russia direct.....	776,400	
.. Bombay & other ports.....	36,535	74,666
.. Batoum and Novorossuk ..		2,414,798
.. Russian Manchuria via Port Arthur, New-chang and Tientsin	1,472,609	88,800

The export of dust has been 559,327 lbs. to Great Britain and 42,800 lbs. to Russian Manchuria; while the export of brick tea has been 2,305,466 to Europe and 3,592,277 lbs. to Russian Manchuria.

Freights have been 45/- per ton of 40 c. ft. to London; and 30/- to New York via Suez.

The feature of the market is the enormous increase in the export to Great Britain—24 millions lbs. of black tea this season compared with six millions last season; to other European ports 19 millions lbs. as compared with two millions last season, while the exports direct to Russia have shrunk from 12½ millions to less than one million, and a similar falling off is of course shown in the export to Russian Manchuria.

The following are the statistics of the Hankow tea trade to the 30th August, as compared with the corresponding period of last season, viz., 2nd September, 1903:—

	1904.	1903.
HANKOW TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements.....	579,351	532,372
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account	8,235	18,479
Stock	10,717	19,015
Arrivals	598,303	569,866

	1904.	1903.
KIUKIANG TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements.....	195,402	190,682
Shipments to Shanghai on Native account	14,059	13,017
Stock	4,114	793
Arrivals	213,575	204,492

Comparative Quotations are as under:—

	1904.	1903.
Per picul.		Per picul.
Oopaaks.....	11.50 —	Tls. 12.00 @ 13.50
Oonams.....	12.75 @ 13.25	.. 11.50 @ 13.00
Oonfaas.....	12.00 @ 13.00	.. 13.00 —
Ichangs.....	27.00 —	..

The export to 27th August, as per Customs Returns stands thus:—

	1904.	1903.
Season 1904 x 1905.....	41,900,489 lbs.	13,023,466 lbs.
.. 1903 x 1904.....	33,926,949 ..	12,204,108 ..
.. 1902 x 1903.....	35,455,518 ..	13,393,705 ..
Total		
Via Shanghai.	1904/5.	1903/4.

To Great Britain.....	6,333,788 lbs.	6,174,516 lbs.
.. United States and Canada.....	3,808,552 ..	4,116,106 ..
.. Continent	4,236,829 ..	1,884,381 ..
.. Russia in Europe ..	137,190 ..	13,184,737 ..
.. do. via North ..	— ..	14,618,635 ..
.. Shanghai	3,020,561 ..	3,745,807 ..

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 9th Sept.—Some demands having come forward, the prices are advancing a little.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.40 to \$8.45 pels.
Do. .. 2, White.....	7.50 to 7.55 ..
Do. .. 1, Brown.....	6.10 to 6.15 ..
Do. .. 2, Brown.....	5.95 to 6.00 ..
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.35 to 8.40 ..
Do. .. 2, White.....	7.45 to 7.50 ..
Do. .. 1, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90 ..
Do. .. 2, Brown	5.70 to 5.75 ..
Foochow Sugar Candy	12.50 to 12.55 ..
Shekloong	10.55 to 10.60 ..

RICE.

HONGKONG, 9th Sept.—The prices are advancing, market being weak.

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.30 to \$2.35
.. Round, good quality	2.60 to 2.65
.. Long	3.80 to 3.85
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	2.60 to 2.65
.. Garden, .. No. 1	3.55 to 3.60
.. White,	4.05 to 4.10
.. Fine Cargo	4.20 to 4.25

SAIGON, 26th August.

Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co., of Saigon, in their Circular for August, state:—During the period under review there has been a fair demand resulting in only small transactions, owing to our prices having hardened, and not proving within the reach of intended buyers. At the close our market remains steady and holders not showing much disposition to meet buyers' views, we do not look for much decline in the near future.

We quote for August to September delivery:—

	per picul.
No. 2 White sifted (trie) steam milled (mixed) ..	—
No. 2 White unsifted (ordinaire) steam milled (mixed) ..	\$3.17
5 % Cargo steam milled (mixed) ..	\$2.77
10 % " " " " ..	\$2.71
20 % " " " " ..	\$2.62

The following is a statement of this year's exports of White Rice, Cargo Rice and Paddy

Destination.	Total Piculs
Hongkong	2,087,000
Tonkin and Annam	500
Manila	1,281,400
Polo	256,100
Cebu	306,600
Japan	812,500
Corea	34,500
Singapore.....	91,600
Batavia	51,200
Sourabaya	52,900
India	800
Noumea	24,600
Mada'ascar	41,400
Reunion	223,100
Europe	2,465,900
Total.....	7,782,800

OPIUM.

6th September.

Quotations are:— Allowance not to 1 catty.	
Malwa New	\$1120 to \$1140 per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1180 to \$1220 do.
Malwa Older	\$1280 to \$1300 do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1320 to \$1340 do.
Persian, fine quality.....	\$900 to — do.
Persian extra fine	\$925 to — do.
Patna New	\$1157½ to — per chest.
Patna Old	\$ — to — do.
Benares New.....	\$1120 to — do.
Benares Old	\$1145 to — do.

HONGKONG, 8th September.

We beg to continue our advices of the 25th Ultimo, since when the movements in our various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.
Stocks as per circular of 25th Ultimo, 1904.....	700	2,307	1,396	2,257
Aug. 27th Imports per Chusan	236½	—	—	12
August 29th	—	300	255	—
Sept. 6th	—	125	75	—
Less Exports to Shanghai	926½	3,382	1,735	2,269
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight	201½	583	149	119
Estimated Stocks this day	692	2,528	1,476	2,160

Bengal.—Prices have declined to \$1,155 for Patna and \$1,120 for Benares owing to heavy stocks and the lower prices realized at the 9th Sale in Calcutta.

Malwa. The market has been very active and a considerable rise has taken place. Quotations are:—

New	\$1,120/1,140
2 years old	\$1,160/1,180
3 " "	\$1,200/1,230
4/5 " "	\$1,280/1,300
Oldest	\$1,320/1,330

Persian.—Prices are steady at \$900 925 for best qualities.

COAL.

A very large stock of Japanese coal has accumulated at Shanghai in consequence of the low freight ruling recently when natives took advantage to import their requirements. Quotations for Cardiff have appreciated for reasons which are not apparent, as there is at present small inquiry for it.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their coal report of to-day's date, state that five steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 11,500 tons of Japan coal and 2,150 tons of Hongay. All has been sold. Since 26th August 18,000 tons of Japan Coal, 1,000 tons of Cardiff, and 3,000 tons of Hongay have arrived, all sold. The market is dull with small sales of Japanese. Quotations:—

Cardiff.....	\$18.00 ex-ship.
Australian	\$11.00 ex-ship.
Yubari Lump.....	\$12.00 ex-ship, nominal
Muti Lump	\$10.00 ex-ship, nominal
Moji Lump.....	\$6.50 ex-ship, steady

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 9th September.—In consequence of higher rates, no business resulted. Stock about 400 bales.

Bombay	28.00 to 30.00 per pel.
Bengal (New), Rangoon } and Dacca.....)	31.00 to 33.00 ..
Shanghai and Japanese,	3.200 to 33.00 ..
Tungchow and Ningpo,	3.200 to 33.00 ..

YARN.

Mr. Eduljee in his report, dated Hongkong, 9th September, says:—No increase of business is yet noticeable, but the market has continued strong and closes with a further general improvement of \$1 to \$3 per bale. Notwithstanding this advance our quotations are still under replacing cost. There is not much doing locally, as the neighbouring country markets are quiet, and the limited business reported below is in execution of Shanghai orders, comprised for the most part of No. 10s. Demand has run on medium and common descriptions of this count, as the figures at which superior tickets are now quoted are mostly on a par with the values of ordinary No. 20s, and almost prohibitive. Importers are very firm in sympathy with Bombay, and buyers have had to pay as much as 80 higher prices for desirable and approved tickets. Sales aggregate 5,271 bales in which are included some 258 bales of No. 14s reverse threads of Messrs. Greaves Cotton & Co's spinings.

Latest telegraphic advices from India report "insufficient rain."

Local Manufacture:—These threads continue strong and sales about 900 bales No. 10s are reported at \$115 to \$117, prices showing an advance of \$1 to \$3 per bale.

Japanese Yarn:—At an appreciation of \$2 to \$3 in value about 600 bales No. 20s have changed hands, and the market closes strong.

Raw Cotton:—Another blank fortnight has been experienced and no business is reported either in Indian or Chinese descriptions. Fears are entertained of a short out-turn of New Indian cotton owing to partial failure of the rains. New China cotton will be on the market in about a fortnight; the yield is reported as up to the average of last year. Stock of Indian cotton about 340 bales. Quotations are Bengal \$27 to \$31, and China \$30 to \$33.

Exchange on India has shown much fluctuation and closes to-day at Rs. 134½ for T/T, and Rs. 134½ for Post. On Shanghai 71½ and on Yokohama 21.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended 27th instant, viz.—

Indian:—Total sales 5,223 bales, comprising 2,300 bales of No. 10s, 105 bales of No. 12s, 275 bales of No. 14s, 1,060 bales of No. 16s, and 1,483 bales of No. 20s, prices remaining with little alteration as those last given and market closing steady. Estimated stock 35,000 bales.

Japanese:—A steady but quiet business has been done at slightly higher prices, sales amounting to 2,000 bales, say No. 16s, at Tls. 89½ to 101 and No. 20s, at Tls. 94½ to 101.

Local:—An extensive business has been reported, sales amounting to 10,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 85½ to 87 for No. 10s, Tls. 87 to 88 for No. 12s, and Tls. 86 to 89 for No. 14s, prices showing little or no change and market closing firm.

AMOY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

2ND SEPTEMBER, 1904.

List of the principal goods passed through the Amoy Custom House from 20th August to 26th August 4 p.m. 1904:—

IMPORTS.

GOODS.	QUANTITY
Cotton Raw, Indian	pls. —
" " Native	49
" Yarn	6
Shirtings, Grey	pcs. 140
T-Cloths	—
Shirtings, White	68
T. Red Shirtings	100
Drills	—
Shirtings Dyed, Brocades	63
" Dyed	12
Damasks	—
Camlets	—
Lasting	—
Spanish Stripes	yds. 346
Lustres, Figured	—

GOODS. QUANTITY.

Lead, in pigs	pls. —
Tin in slabs	100
Iron, Nail rod	—
Quicksilver	pls. 2
Iron, Old	387
Ironwire	17
Rice	6,357
Opium, Patna	—
" Benares	40
" Persia	32
" Malwa	2
" Szechuan	4
" Yunnan	15
" Kiangsu	—
Sesamum Seed	—
Sapanwood	—
Sandalwood	75
Battans	18
Wheat	4,200
Flour	563
Beans and Peas	18,086
Bicho de Mar	14,939
Mats Tea	186
Oil, Kerosine American	pls. —
" " Borneo in bulk	—
" " Bunnarh	—
" " Sumatra	—
Coal	tons. 758
Tobacco Leaf	pls. 41
Vermicelli	37

EXPORTS.

GOODS. QUANTITY.

Sugar, White	pls. —
" Brown	—
" Candy	—
Hemp Bags	pcs. —
" Sacking	—
Paper I Quality	pls. 747
" II	116
Tobacco, Prepared	113
Kittysols (mubrellas)	pcs. 900

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Shanghai, 25th August.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co., in their Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, state:—Urgent orders have continued to come from Newchwang for Piece Goods, chiefly American, and it is said the Tientsin men have been reselling freely at handsome profits. The well-informed Natives here declare there are not 2,000 bales of those makes unsold. The probable shortage of the Native Cloth this year, owing to the interruption of the Junk trade no doubt accounts largely for the demand; ride our remarks below. Trade with our other dependencies is falling into comparative insignificance. Very satisfactory reports come from Corea, but the scarcity of tonnage is greatly hampering the trade. It is not at all creditable that, notwithstanding the bulk of the Foreign trade with that country is in English goods, not a single steamer flying the British Flag is engaged in the Coast trade, which has to be dependent on occasional visits of steamers belonging to other Nations that have no interest in the cargo beyond carrying it. Manchester is strong and advancing, and manufacturers for the most part are fully engaged for months ahead. Cotton continues to rise, the Liverpool market being excited. The last quotations received were 65½d for Mid American and 72d for Egyptian. In the States Futures have gone up about 15% in the last three or four weeks. Conflicting rumours respecting the crop are being spread about, and the impression is gaining ground that in spite of the increased acreage it will not be possible to harvest much over 11,000,000 bales. Buying in Manchester still continues for this market, and most operators are contented that prices will not come down, though here and there it has been possible to pick up parcels at previous rates. Transactions on a fairly free scale are reported from New York for China; firms here having settled fully 25,000 bales it is just discovered that Tientsin has been doing a big business direct, which possibly may account for the comparatively stiff prices quoted for certain makes. It is estimated that over 100,000 bales have been booked for China during the last month. The market is strong for yarns, both imported and local. Fancy prices have been paid for the small parcels of new crop that have come to hand, for sample purposes it is said.

HONGKONG, 9th September.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

COTTON YARN—	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$ 90.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24, ...	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32, ...	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42, ...	155.00 to 170.00

Reported sales 3,500 bales.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.20 to 2.30
" 7 lbs.	2.35 to 2.50
" 8.4 lbs.	3.20 to 4.10
" 9 to 10 lbs.	4.10 to 5.50
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.90 to 3.10
" 58 to 60 "	3.20 to 3.75
" 64 to 66 "	4.00 to 5.50
" Fine	6.20 to 8.25
" Book-folds	5.50 to 8.20
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.80 to 1.10
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.	2.25 to 2.50
" 7 lbs. (32 ") ..	2.75 to 3.00
" 6 lbs. (32 ") Mexs.	2.25 to 2.75
" 7 lbs. (32 ") ..	3.00 to 3.25
" 8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.)	3.20 to 4.00
Drills, English—40 yds. 13½ " to 14 lbs.	5.25 to 8.00

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.80 to 3.00
Brocades—Dyed	0.13 to 0.14

DAMASKS—

Chintzes—Assorted	0.09 to	0.17
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.23 to	0.45
Velveteens—18 in.	0.21 to	0.27

	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.45 to 0.75

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes	Sundry chops	0.70	to	2.50
German		0.60	to	0.75
Habit, Med. and	Broad Cloths	1.00	to	3.50

per piece

Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	7.80 to 9.50
" Assorted	7.95 to 9.65
Camlets—Assorted	12.50 to 33.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches Assorted	13.00 to 22.00

Orleans—Plain, 31 in.	10.00 to —
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		per pair	
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	0.70	to	0.80
Fine quality	—	to	—

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod	4.10	to	—
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	4.10	to	—
Swedish Bar	4.15	to	—
Small Round Rod	1.60	to	—
Hoop $\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.	6.20	to	—
Wire, 16 25 oz.	9.50	to	—
Wire Rope, Old	3.00	to	—
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop	8.40	to	—
Australian	8.40	to	—
Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14 20 oz.	39.50	to	—
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	39.50	to	—
Elliot's 14 20 oz.	39.50	to	—
Composition Nails.	61.00	to	—
Japan Copper, Slabs.	38.60	to	—
Tin	81.50	to	—

Tin-Plates	7.50	to	-
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Steel 1 to 2	5.90	to	---
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Quicksilver	152.00	to	--
			per box

Window Glass	4.50	to	—
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HONGKONG QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 9th September.

Beans	\$4
Borax	\$15 @ 17½
Camphor (China)	\$110
" (Formosa)	\$121
Cassia (First quality)	\$15
" (Second ")	\$22
" Oil	\$165 @ 175
Cloves	\$25 @ 45
Fennel Seed Oil	\$325 @ 350
Glue	\$25
Grapes	\$10 @ 14
Ivory	\$350 @ 550
Kismisa	\$9 @ 11
Olibanum	\$7 @ 18
Rosa Oil	\$60 @ 175
Saltpetre	\$10½ @ 12
Sandalwood	\$28 @ 30
" Oil	\$250 @ 400
Senna Leaves	\$3 @ 6
Sugar Candy	\$10½ @ 11
Vermilion	\$87
Wax	\$35 @ 38

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. 33.00
Do. seconds	29.00
Buffalo hides, best selected	19.50
Goatskins, untanned (chiefly white colour)	—
Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each)	8.75
White China Grass (Wuchang and or Poochi)	11.20
White China Grass (Sinshan and or Chayin)	10.50
Green China Grass (Szechuen)	11.50
Jute	5.00
White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow)	10.50
White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchow and or Macheng)	10.40
White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu)	—
Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu)	10.00
Animal Tallow	9.00
Gallnuts (usual shape)	18.50
Do. (Plum) do.	20.00
Black Bristles	116.00
Feathers (Grey and or White Duck)	20.70
Do. Wild Duck	21.75
Turneric	3.00
Sesamum Seed	4.45
Sesamum Seed Oil	7.90
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	7.90
Wood Oil	7.80
Tea Oil	9.00

Per M. M. Steamer *Mauche*, sailed on 9th Sept. For Marseilles:—222 bales raw silk, 109 bales waste silk, 10 cases silk piece goods, 41 bale human hair, 125 cases cassia, 5 cases ylang ylang oil, 19 cases sundries. For Lyons:—563 bales raw silk. For St. Chamond:—10 bales raw silk.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 9th September.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1.91 ¹ / ₂
Bank Bills, on demand	1.94 ¹ / ₂
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1.91 ¹ / ₂
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1.93 ¹ / ₂
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1.10 ¹ / ₂
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1.10 ¹ / ₂
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	228
Credits 4 months' sight	231 ¹ / ₂
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	165
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	44 ¹ / ₂
Credits, 60 days' sight	44 ¹ / ₂
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	135 ¹ / ₂
Bank, on demand	135 ¹ / ₂
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	135 ¹ / ₂
Bank, on demand	135 ¹ / ₂
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71 ¹ / ₂
Private, 30 days' sight	72 ¹ / ₂
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	89 ¹ / ₂
ON MANILA.—	
On demand—Pesos	84 ¹ / ₂
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	6 ¹ / ₂ p.c. p.m.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	109
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1 ¹ / ₂ p.c. p.m.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 ¹ / ₂ p.c. p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	61 ¹ / ₂
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$10.95
GOLD LEAF, 180 fine, per tael	\$57.70
BAR SILVER, per oz.	26 ¹ / ₂

SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 9th September, 1904.—A more active demand has been met with during the week under review, and further advances have to be recorded in Indo-Chinas and China Sugars, which have again attracted the chief attention of operators.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been disposed of in small lots at \$648 and \$650, and at the latter rate further shares are procurable. The London rate remains steady at \$66. 10s. 0d. Nationals are unchanged at \$39 with probable buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have been booked at \$580, market closing steady. China Traders have been placed at the reduced rate of \$62 at which more shares are obtainable. North Chinas have advanced to Tls. 70 buyers, and Cantons to \$215 buyers. Yangtszes have been booked locally at \$140.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong, after reported sales at \$335, are quoted at \$330 sellers. Chinas have been booked at \$87 and are in further request.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao, have been placed at \$29 and \$30, and more shares are on offer at the latter rate. Indo-Chinas after rapidly advancing to \$122, are procurable to a small extent at the rate. Sales at \$123 and \$125 December, and at \$126 March have also been effected. China and Manilas are quiet but steady at \$26¹/₂. Douglases have advanced to \$37 buyers, and Star Ferries to \$41 (11) and \$31 (new). Shell Transports are also firmer with sales and further buyers at 24.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have again been dealt in at rapidly advancing rates up to \$210 cash and \$212 for the settlement account, closing firm with further cash buyers at \$210. Luzons are unchanged at \$6¹/₂ and without business.

MINING.—There is no business to report under this head.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have been booked at \$225 and \$226 cash and for settlement delivery, and further shares are procurable at these rates. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sold and are in further request at \$113. New Amoy Docks continue on offer at \$27¹/₂. Farnhams after advancing to Tls. 182 have declined to Tls. 179, at which, however, sales have been effected and more shares are enquired for.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been booked at \$184 and close steady. Kowloon Lands are unchanged at \$38, and West Points at \$61. Hongkong Hotels are firmer with sales and further buyers at \$133. Humphreys' Estates are quoted at \$12.90 sellers (old) and \$5 buyers (new). Shanghai Lands have advanced to Tls. 112.

COTTON MILLS.—Quotations unchanged, and without business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements, after small sales at \$31, have eased off to \$33¹/₂ with sellers. Watsons have declined to \$14¹/₂ with sales and further buyers. Fenwicks are weaker with sellers at \$47. Tramways are said to have been booked at the advanced rate of \$300. Dairy Farms are in request at \$21, and Steam Waterboats at \$194. China Providents have again been booked at \$94.

MEMOS.—Hongkong Cotton, &c., Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 10th inst., Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., extraordinary general meeting on the 15th instant, to confirm resolutions passed at the general meeting on the 31st August. National Bank of China Ltd., extraordinary general meeting on the 24th instant, to confirm the resolution reducing the capital of the Bank passed at the general meeting held on the 3rd instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	{ \$650, sellers { London, 206. 10s.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$39.
B. Shares	28	\$39.
Foun. Shares	21	\$10, buyers
Insurance—		
Union	\$100	\$580, sales
China Traders	\$25	\$62, sales & sellers
North China	25	Tls. 70, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$135.
Canton	\$50	\$215, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$87, sales & buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
H. Canton and Macao	\$15	\$30, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	210	\$122, sellers
China and Manila	\$50	\$26 ¹ / ₂ .
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$37, buyers
Star Ferry	\$5	\$11, sales & buyers
Star Ferry	\$5	\$31, sales & buyers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.		
Do. pref. shares	210	23. 10s.
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$210, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$6 ¹ / ₂ .
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$400.
Rauha	18/10d.	\$6 ¹ / ₂ .
Docks, Etc.—		
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$225, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$113, sales & buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$61	\$27 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 179, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$154, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$38.
West Point Building	\$50	\$61, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$133, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$12.90, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$2 ¹ / ₂	\$5, buyers
S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 50	Tls. 112.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 30, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 25.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 32 ¹ / ₂ .
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160, sellers
Hongkong	\$10	\$12, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$30 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$11, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14 ¹ / ₂ , buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$15, buyers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$5	\$9 ¹ / ₂ .
Hongkong & C. Gas	210	\$160, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$47, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$250, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$300, sales
Hk. Steam Water-Boat Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$19 ¹ / ₂ , buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$21, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$37, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12/6	\$5.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9 ¹ / ₂ , buyers
Do.	\$10	\$180.
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$1.
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9 ¹ / ₂ , sales
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$9 ¹ / ₂ , sales & buyers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$9 ¹ / ₂ .
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$12, buyers
Shanghai and Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$50.
Canton, Hongkong Ice & Sugar Companies	\$10	\$10, nominal
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$150, sellers
Phippine Tobacco Trust Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$9 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$7, sellers
S. C. Morning Post	\$25	\$3 ¹ / ₂ , buyers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending 1st September, 1904 states:—Since our last issue our market generally has been steady without much fluctuation, and a moderate business has been accomplished. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/6¹/₂. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks are quoted from the South at \$650 ex div. nominal. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business under this heading. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas have been dealt in every day from the 25th until to-day at rates varying by

Half a tael only, and we find ourselves at exactly the same point, viz., Tls. 84½ cash, 86½ to 86 December, with a steady tone. Sugars.—China Sugars are quoted in Hongkong at \$200. A single transaction in Perak was done at Tls. 60 cash. Mining.—We have eliminated the name of the Panjom Mining Co. from our circular. China Engineering and Mining Co. There are buyers at Tls. 6.50 Baarer Scrip. Weihaiwei Gold Mining Co. A demand carried the price to \$25 cash, and \$27 December, but on the announcement of the new issue, a flood of shares poured out. The only transaction since has been at \$24 December, and now no offer can be obtained at all and the majority of share brokers have shares for sale in their hands. Lands.—A sale of Lands is reported at Tls. 111, but we assess the market figure at about Tls. 112. Docks & Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyds have fluctuated between 171 and 174 for cash, but close weak with probable sellers at 173. For September 175, 176½, and 175 has been done, and December closes with sellers at Tls. 179. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have been dealt in at Tls. 153 for cash with buyers. For December 161½, 160, and 160 is the order of business. Industrial.—Gas shares are wanted at Tls. 98. Pulp have been done at Tls. 150. Maatschappij. There are buyers for cash at Tls. 311½, and for December at Tls. 326½, with a fairly strong market. Stores and Hotels.—Centrals quoted at \$8. Hotel des Colonies Tls. 16. Hall and Holtz at \$30½ and wanted. Moutries at \$55. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have been done at Tls. 6. Loans and Debentures.—There is a demand for Astors 8% at Tls. 102. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves 6% and Shanghai Lands 6% have been done at 95. Gas 6% at 97 and 94.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 9th September.—Freights continue firm with demand for steamers coast on time. Saigon to this, 17 cents per picul is offering; to Java, 30 cents; to Philippines, 30 to 31 cents. From Java to Hongkong, medium sized tonnage is wanted at 30 cents per picul for wet sugar. Hence to Japan, steamers are wanted at 25 cents to Kobe, and 30 cents to Yokohama. Japan coal freights are somewhat weaker, at \$2 per ton to Hongkong, \$2.50 to Singapore. The following are the settlements:—

M. S. Dollar—British steamer, 2,674 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.
Decima—German steamer, 194 tons, Moji or Nagasaki to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.
Chunsang—British steamer, 1,418 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.
Signal—German steamer, 907 tons, Hongay to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.
Wuhu—British steamer, 1,227 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.
Amara—British steamer, 1,566 tons, Saigon to one port Japan, 40 cents per picul.
Bourbon—French steamer, 907 tons, Saigon to Cebu (part cargo), 35 cents per picul.
Ningpo—British steamer, 1,228 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 27 cents per picul.
Pakhoi—British steamer, 1,227 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 30 cents per picul.
Shashsing—British steamer, 1,307 tons, Saigon to Manila, 28 cents per picul.
Borg—Norwegian steamer, 738 tons, Hongkong to Kobe, \$5.20 lump sum.
Prometheus—Norwegian steamer, 1,023 tons, hence to Kobe, \$9,000 lump sum.
Chunsang—British steamer, 1,418 tons, hence to Kobe, \$12,500 lump sum.
Nanshan—British steamer, 1,299 tons, hence to Yokohama, 35 cents per picul.
Babelsberg—German steamer, 1,379 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$10,000 per month.
Lydia—German steamer, 1,772 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$11,000 per month.
Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$7,000 per month.
Prometheus—Norwegian steamer, 1,023 tons, monthly, 8 months, \$8,500 per month.
Victoria—Swedish steamer, 969 tons, monthly, 3 months, private terms.
Hugin—Norwegian steamer, 829 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$7,250 per month.
Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$6,500 per month.
Taiyu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, monthly, 6 months, private terms.

FREIGHT.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co. of Shanghai, in their latest report state with regard to coastwise tonnage that Shipowners have certainly got things all their own way just now, owing to the scarcity of tonnage available for prompt delivery; besides a strong demand for trip charters in all directions. There is some enquiry from Japan for monthly charters which is being filled at paying rates.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—ARRIVALS.

- 4, Mayasan Maru, Jap. str., from Bangkok.
- 5, Andalusia, German str., from Yokohama.
- 5, Arratoon Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
- 5, Benclench, British str., from London.
- 5, Bulyases, British str., from London.
- 5, C Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
- 5, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
- 5, Kwonsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 5, Manche, French str., from Yokohama.
- 5, Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.
- 5, Patroclus, British str., from Liverpool.
- 5, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
- 6, Bourbaki, French ship, from New York.
- 6, Fausang, British str., from Moji.
- 6, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 6, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 6, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 6, Promise, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 6, Providence, Japanese str., from Swatow.
- 6, Rasmora, British str., from Newport.
- 6, Siam, British str., from Langkat.
- 6, Tjipanas, Dutch str., from Macassar.
- 6, Tolv, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 6, Woukoi, German str., from Bangkok.
- 7, Emp. of Japan, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
- 7, Espiegle, British sloop, from Weihaiwei.
- 7, Fooshing, British str., from Saigon.
- 7, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.
- 7, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
- 7, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
- 7, Hongmoh, British str., from Singapore.
- 7, Hua, French str., from Kwangchanwan.
- 7, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
- 7, Sishan, British str., from Saigon.
- 7, Toonan, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 7, Wosang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 8, Chiynen, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 8, Glenlochy, British str., from London.
- 8, Heimdal, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
- 8, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Hongay.

September—DEPARTURES.

- 4, Nigretia, British str., for Yangtze.
- 5, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.
- 5, Nankin, British str., for Kobe.
- 5, Trocar, British str., for Amoy.
- 5, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 6, Borneo, German str., for Sandakan.
- 6, Chihli, British str., for Tientsin.
- 6, Clara Jebaen, German str., for Takau.
- 6, Holstein, German str., for Tamsui.
- 6, Humber, British storeship, for Weihaiwei.
- 6, Leviathan, British cruiser, for Weihaiwei.
- 6, Lyeamoon, German str., for Shanghai.
- 6, Manche, French str., for Europe.
- 6, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 6, Onsang, British str., for Saigon.
- 6, Palamotta, British str., for Rangoon.
- 6, Prometheus, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
- 6, Simongan, Dutch str., for Amoy.
- 6, Taiwan, British str., for Swatow.
- 6, Tanglin, German str., for Bangkok.
- 6, Telemachus, British str., for Vancouver.
- 6, Thales, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 7, Andalusia, German str., for Hamburg.
- 7, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
- 7, Eclipse, British 4-m. bge., for Baltimore.
- 7, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 7, Mayasan Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
- 7, Nanshan, British str., for Yokohama.
- 7, Patroclus, British str., for Shanghai.
- 7, Swanley, British str., for Durban.
- 7, Taming, British str., for Manila.
- 8, America Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
- 8, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 8, Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
- 8, Providence, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 8, Rasmora, British str., for Sas-bo.
- 8, Shantung, British str., for Saigon.
- 8, Siam, British str., for Shanghai.
- 8, Terrible, British str., for S'pore & Home.
- 8, Toonan, Chinese str., for Canton.
- 8, Wosang, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Arratoon Apcar*, from Calcutta, Messrs. Boucher and Fotheringham.
 Per *Kwongsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. and Miss Courtney and Mr. Smith.
 Per *Manche*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. Ricardo Floria, Constantino, Ledesmo, and Lobaton; from Kobe, Messrs. J. Koono,

R. S. Wright, and Galstain; from Shanghai, Mrs. de Figueiredo and 2 children, Mrs. Anna Achar, R. P. Dahmann, Frere Pierrefen, Messrs. C. Piene, Rottman, Stuts, Metharam, and Dingamal, and Miss Ehrlich; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Misses Yose Pink and Furman; for Singapore, from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Kitano, Capt. O. Davies, Messrs. S. Umino, S. Yamaguchi, K. Shimazu, and Y. Kanda; from Shanghai, Mrs. Rosa Lertzman, Mrs. E. Signa, Messrs. J. H. Sheridan, Sebless, Nissim, and Vangelder; for Port Said, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Petroff, Mrs. Latroff and infant, Messrs. Gurguraki, A. Suriloff, J. Woronkin, A. Sakoloff, Machailoff, Weselkoff, Rennisoff, Koepisch, Jirilloff, Sakzamin, Gilkin, Muchin, Korabloff, and Augustinoritch, and Miss Gorez Kaia; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mr. L. Souyries; from Kobe, Mr. Berner; from Shanghai, Mrs. H. Linder, Mrs. H. Fenme, Mrs. Chommelin and infant, Miss Nagelberg, Messrs. de Figueiredo, Paris, Brunschwig, hazalon, le R. P. Prenau, Hilaire, Chappelle, Th. Berthelon, J. Stampf, Plaum, Miguel Alves, Bonnefin, Hagberth, and Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Somme.

Per *Zafiro*, from Manila, Mrs. Howison, Miss C. Atienza, Masters L. Pansacolan, F. Gochnico, M. Gochnico, and Canizares, Messrs. S. Sugiora, C. S. Applegate, F. E. Raab, E. A. Wells, J. F. Gale, E. B. Gaskel, Messrs. Vicente Atienza and Vicente Atienza, jr., K. Jndeya, Barton Whitcomb, and J. T. Figueras.

Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Messrs. P. A. Hill, A. L. Kay, J. Down, J. J. Muir, and K. Nozuchi.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. Putnam, Misses Griffen and Pitts, Mr. Elizaga and 5 children, Masters Lynburg (2) and Focken.

Per *Wongko*, from Bangkok, Mr. St. Pierre.

Per *Hongmoh*, from Singapore, Mr. Slander.

Per *Sishan*, from Saigon, &c., Mr. K. Robinson.

Per *Fooshing*, from Saigon, for Hongkong, Capt. Jerkin.

Per *Kwanglee*, from Shanghai, Messrs. Merie and Boyd.

Per *Tjipanas*, from Macassar, Messrs. Smit and Jouchbeer.

Per *Wosang*, from Shanghai, Miss Bennett, Messrs. Newman and Hill.

Per *Toonan*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Hicker.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, Dr. and Mrs. P. S. Potter, Mrs. E. P. Wolf, Lieut. H. O. McDonald, R.A., Mr. E. Hahn, Rev. A. B. Neilsen, Messrs. H. N. Ferrers, C. J. Andrews, J. H. Yema, and M. Stern; from Yokohama, Mrs. Mare and daughter, Lieut. P. M. Rixey, Messrs. C. H. Grace, N. Shaw, and W. E. Crane; from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. T. Nakamura; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Kellman, Capt. Struve, Messrs. C. Bryan, A. S. Spitzel, and Pepiatze.

DEPARTED.

Per *Mongolia*, for San Francisco, &c., Mrs. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Lee, Capt., Mrs. and Miss Carter, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Stone, Mrs. I. W. Martin, Mrs. A. L. Sleeper, Mrs. G. Bennett, Mrs. J. H. Blount, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Bunner, Mrs. E. Borthwick and daughter, Dr. G. W. Felton, Capt. J. A. Logan, U.S.A., Miss E. Phillipier and F. E. Burt, Messrs. J. W. Wallace, B. Wilder, S. Wilder, F. R. Ryan, E. A. Keyes, E. P. Shuman, C. H. Raw, G. H. Collignon, W. S. Allen, E. P. Brias, W. C. Clarke, F. D. Cheshire, J. Delbourn, J. Tyack, A. A. Hussain, W. A. Stopani, H. H. Gompertz, A. P. Simpson, H. Schaelkopf, J. Block, R. W. Watt, and P. L. Miller.

Per *Yuensang*, for Manila, Misses Clara and Anna Fischler, Messrs. Antonio Saraho, J. S. Jackson, F. C. Barcom, and James Raff.

Per *Manche*, for Saigon, Messrs. Frank Jones, A. Fetterer, and Jean Corfec; for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Burt, Messrs. John W. Breadley, Ernest Koppen, and Hyden Mohamed, Misses Florine and R. Ehrlich; for Coombe, Frere Adrien Jean; for Marseilles, Messrs. Luiz dos Santos and Henri Marie Le Stet.

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